

## World news

## Business summary

Lebanon  
car blast  
claims  
60 lives

A large car bomb was detonated in Beirut, killing at least 60 people and injuring about 100. Among the dead were 15 schoolchildren who were in a bus near the site of the blast.

No group immediately claimed responsibility for the attack, which came as the mainly Moslem western half of the capital also lurched into further bloodshed and political turmoil.

The fighting around the Palestinian camps in the south east of the Lebanese capital took a new twist with the Shia Muslim militia Amal coming into direct confrontation with Syria. Page 6

## Mies tower rejected

The UK Government rejected a scheme to build an 18-storey glass office block, designed by the late Mies van der Rohe in the City of London. The developer, Peter Palumbo, wanted to demolish listed Victorian buildings to build the glass tower, next to the Mansion House. Patrick Jenkin, Environment Secretary, rejected the design as "obtrusive" but did not rule out redevelopment on the site if there were "acceptable proposals". Page 19

## Spanish gas blast

At least 55 people were injured in a gas explosion in the city of Valencia, Spain, which destroyed a restaurant and damaged buildings.

## Eta kills two police

The Basque guerrilla organisation Eta claimed responsibility for the deaths of two policemen whose bodies were found near the northern coastal city of San Sebastian.

## Tamils quit homes

About 20,000 Tamils have been ordered by Sri Lankan troops to leave their homes as security forces sweep through areas of the country in search of Tamil separatist rebels.

## Albanian thaw

Albania is showing signs that it intends at least partially to reduce its political and economic isolation by negotiating with two of its neighbours, Yugoslavia and Italy, on improving trade and communications. Page 2

## Peru food riot

Protesters looted food markets and smashed car windows in a riot in Peru's northern city of Chimbote during a 24-hour general strike.

## New army chief

President Francois Mitterrand named his chief military aide, General Jean Sautier, as the new chief of staff of the armed forces.

## Judge on trial

A second Australian judge was committed for trial on charges of trying to pervert the course of justice in cases concerning an immigration racket.

## Moscow fares rise

Moscow tram fares (now three kopecks) and trolleybus fares (four kopecks) are to go up to five kopecks (6 cents).

## Son of 'spy' held

The U.S. Navy detained a seaman aboard the American aircraft carrier Nimitz off Israel in connection with an espionage charge already lodged against his father.

## Blazes controlled

All but three of the 40 blazes in Florida have been brought under control. The worst fires in the state's history destroyed more than 150,000 acres of brush, swamp and timber.

Shell  
quarter  
earnings  
top £1bn

ROYAL DUTCH/SHELL quarterly earnings topped £1bn (\$1.27bn) for the first time, partly reflecting a drop in the value of the British currency. Sir Peter Brabeck-Letford, Shell Transport and Trading's chairman, told the annual meeting that crude oil availability far exceeded demand and the quota system operated by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) was not yet tight enough to stabilise prices. Feature, Page 26; details, Page 32

DOLLAR closed in New York at DM 3.082, SwFr 2.805, FFfr 9.395 and Y25.15. It was firmer in London, closing at DM 3.0765 (DM 3.0670); SwFr 2.5865 (SwFr 2.5840); FFfr 9.3850 (FFfr 9.3530) and Y25.05 (Y25.025). On Bank of England figures, the dollar's exchange rate index was 145.2 from 145.4. Page 49

STERLING closed in New York at \$1.255. It fell 80 points against the dollar in London to close at \$1.244. It also fell to DM 3.8950 (DM 3.8975); SwFr 3.2750 (SwFr 3.2875) and Y25.10 (Y25.15). The pound's exchange rate index fell to 79.3. Page 49

WALL STREET: The Dow Jones industrial average closed 5.94 down at 1,303.76. Section III

LONDON shares put in another firm performance, stimulated by intense takeover activity. The FT Ordinary share index ended 0.7 higher at 1,026.9. Section III

TOKYO shares rose moderately although late profit-taking eroded some early gains. The Nikkei-Dow market average gained 46.98 to 12,897.35. Section III

GOLD fell \$0.75 on the London bullion market to close at \$316.75. Gold rose in Zurich however, to \$316.75 (\$316.25). In New York, the Comex June settlement was \$316.15. Page 48

COPPER prices made significant advances of more than £30 a tonne on the London Metal Exchange, closing at £1,210.50 a tonne ahead of Tuesday's level of £1,174. The three-month price was up £20.25 at £1,197.75, raising new fears of a supply squeeze. Traders were baffled by the restoration of the cash premium only days after the three-month price had established a premium, stimulating hopes of a slackening of in the long supply squeeze.

PRESIDENT Ronald Reagan promised strong backing to U.S. steel industry in its fight to strengthen curbs on steel imports from the EEC.

U.S. CAPITAL goods outlook darkened when the Commerce Department reported that new orders for capital goods in April fell sharply for the second consecutive month.

BULGARIA launched a \$100m credit line in the Euromarkets, its first such borrowing since 1979. Page 29

EEC met a frosty reception when it launched a \$1.8bn, five-year floating rate note in the Eurobond market. Page 29

A NEW merchant banking venture to advise Mexican companies has been formed by the three Lazard houses in London, New York and Paris, and three Mexican banking partners. The group will sell advice on corporate finance and arrange foreign investment and trade transactions.

BUNZL, British paper products distributor and merchant, bid £117m (\$148m) for Brammer, a bearings distribution group. Brammer will resist the bid, which is conditional on its dropping a £40m offer for Energy Services and Electronics. News analysis, Page 33

GILL & DUFFUS, London commodity broker best known for cocoa trading, said it was holding talks with an unnamed company that might lead to a bid for the group. Speculation centred on Dalgety, but no comment was available from the international agricultural trading group. Page 30

European groups  
line up for star  
wars contracts

BY ALAN FRIEDMAN IN MILAN AND DAVID MARSH IN PARIS

ITALIAN and French high-technology companies yesterday confirmed their growing interest in taking part in the research phase of Washington's Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI).

Aware, however, that France was leading an attempt to develop a European alternative to SDI involving collaboration to apply so-called star wars technologies to civilian purposes, spokesmen in both countries also emphasised their desire to see a successful launch for France's Eureka proposals.

In Paris, Societe Europeenne de Propulsion (SEP), the French state-controlled rocket motor maker, said it was "interested" in possible participation in SDI. Reosc, a precision optical manufacturer, which has already won a contract for a large mirror to be used in laser experiments by the U.S. Navy, said it hoped to receive further orders as a result of continuing contacts with Washington over high-powered laser applications.

President Francois Mitterrand has ruled out French participation in SDI on political grounds, but French officials say the Government has no objection to individual contracts between French companies and the U.S. Defence Department, provided such work is related to the SDI programme.

French and West German foreign and defence ministers are to hold a special meeting before the end of the month in an effort to narrow their differences over participation in the Strategic Defence Initiative. Page 2

liquid-fuelled propulsion systems, he added.

Reosc, which is a division of the SFIM aero-equipment group, said separately that it delivered to the U.S. a \$900,000 1.85 metre mirror for focusing lasers. Last year, M. Dominique de Poteves, the chairman, said contacts were continuing about orders for a greater number of mirrors which would be connected with SDI research.

In Italy, Commander Enzo Brancaccio, an official at the Associazione Nazionale Industrie Elettrotelegrafiche (Anie), the Italian electronics manufacturers' association, said yesterday that the industry would be pressing the Craxi Government to allow Italian companies to compete for contracts.

He said the electronics industry, particularly system electronics and defence electronics companies, would be "preparing to work with the United States". Commander Brancaccio stressed that that need not rule out Italian co-operation on the Eureka initiative.

Yesterday, Sig Luigi Granelli, Italy's Science and Research Minister, called for "maximum cohesion in forming the European position."

Reagan offers to halve MX programme, Page 3

Kohl under pressure  
to cut unemployment

BY RUPERT CORNWELL IN BONN

WITH a fresh verbal belligerence by Herr Franz Josef Strauss ringing in its ears, the leadership of the badly shaken Christian Democrats (CDU) met last night to try to work out preliminary agreement on emergency measures to cut West Germany's 8.5 per cent unemployment rate.

What was first planned several weeks ago as a low-key strategy session has now been transformed into a vital occasion to restore a semblance of order to the ruling centre-right coalition, after the shock waves sent out by the CDU's electoral rout in North Rhine Westphalia on May 12.

That nerve-shaking vote of no confidence in the Government's economic policies has brought to the surface all the simmering rivalries within the three-party alliance. But the sharpest attacks have, as usual, come from Herr Strauss, leader of the Christian Democrats' Bavarian sister, the CSU.

The main bone of contention, dividing the CDU from the CSU as well as the liberal Free Democrats (FDP) and wide sections of industry and the unions, is the timing of the planned DM 20bn (\$6.55bn) of tax cuts, currently scheduled to go ahead in two roughly equal parts, next year and in 1988.

But Herr Strauss yesterday accused the Government of displaying a needless "inclination towards self-destruction" by refusing to accelerate the entire package to a date before the next federal elections, due in February 1987.

After North Rhine Westphalia, he wrote yesterday in the CSU newspaper Bayernkurier, disquiet in the ruling parties was such that something had to be done well before the election.

Last night, however, Herr Gerhard Stoltenberg, the CDU Finance Minister and most vocal advocate of the two-phase timing, again insisted that he would not be moved. He flatly ruled out any pre-election pump-priming "of the sort which wrecked the Social Democrats' (SPD) before they lost power in 1982.

Aid the confusion, which has once more provoked fierce criticism of the leadership qualities of Chancellor Helmut Kohl, all that seemed clear last night was that the crisis-hit West German construction industry would be a prime beneficiary of the emergency measures.

Herr Stoltenberg confirmed that the Government would look at possible extra public spending for the sector, where 200,000 jobs are at risk this year alone, within the 1988 draft budget, which is due for approval by July 1. The Bavarian leader, for his part, demanded that federal spending on city renovation should be trebled to DM 1bn.

At the same time, much support exists for extra incentives to boost private construction.

## Volvo earnings drop by 15%

BY KEVIN DONE, NORDIC CORRESPONDENT, IN GOTHENBURG

VOLVO, the Swedish motor vehicle, energy and food group, suffered a drop of 15 per cent in profits in the first quarter of 1985 as car and truck shipments fell below the high level of a year earlier.

Volvo said that the number of cars delivered to customers was virtually unchanged at 95,000 units.

Demand for cars was weaker in Western Europe, although sales were still strong in the U.S. Mr Hakon Frisinger, managing director, warned that the group expected to lose several thousand car sales in the domestic market in the wake of last week's drastic government squeeze on consumer spending, which is aimed particularly at dampening soaring Swedish car sales.

The Volvo board decided yesterday to press ahead with plans to build a new SKR 2bn (\$225m) car plant at Uddevalla in south-west Sweden. The plant will have an eventual capacity of producing 80,000 cars a year in two shifts, and

Volvo is to promote the sale of shares across the counter at Sweden's 2,200 post offices. The group already has 150,000 shareholders but is anxious to promote its stock as "the people's share" in Sweden.

initial final assembly work is expected to begin in the autumn of 1987. The car plant should be completed during 1989.

Volvo group profits after financial items totalled SKR 2.2bn in the first quarter against SKR 2.6bn in the first three months of 1984. Income per share dropped to SKR 13.10 from SKR 15.60 a year earlier, disappointing market expectations.

Sales during the first quarter were virtually unchanged at SKR 21.8bn. Excluding oil trading - which fell by 12 per cent - and Volvo BM, the construction equipment subsidiary that has been merged with Clark Michigan of the U.S. and

is no longer consolidated, Volvo's sales rose by 9 per cent.

Sales of the car division rose slightly by 8 per cent to SKR 9.9bn in the first quarter, while truck sales rose by 6 per cent to SKR 3.7bn.

Shipments of trucks were lower than a year earlier chiefly due to the weak market in the Middle East. New orders declined and the order backlog was lower at the end of March than a year earlier.

The size of the group's liquid funds, which stood at SKR 18.7bn at the end of the first quarter, helped give Volvo interest earnings of SKR 92m in the first quarter compared with net interest expenses of SKR 65m in the first quarter of 1984.

Volvo enjoyed a record year in 1984 with a jump of 64 per cent in profits after financial items. Return on capital employed in the car division exceeded 40 per cent last year and the car operations alone accounted for 70 per cent of the group operating profits.

Strasbourg  
MPs win  
key case  
against  
ministers

By Our Legal and Foreign Staff

THE EUROPEAN Court yesterday handed down a landmark judgment finding the Council of Ministers, representing EEC governments, guilty of breaching the Treaty of Rome because they have failed to ensure to provide transport services across the Community.

The judgment was first ever delivered against the Council of Ministers on a complaint by the European Parliament, which in this case was supported by the European Commission. It establishes for the first time that the parliament can take the council to court and will be seen by parliamentarians as opening a new door to expanding their influence over Community politics and policies.

The court's decision was immediately welcomed as a triumph for the parliament by Mr Georgios Anastasiou, chairman of its transport committee, who said: "This decision has primary importance at the institutional level as well as for the implementation of a Community transport policy."

By contrast, the secretariat of the Council of Ministers remained silent while expecting a possible reaction from a meeting of EEC transport ministers in Brussels today.

Mr Stanley Clinton Davis, the European Commissioner responsible for transport policy, said: "This judgment will be a powerful weapon in creating the conditions for faster progress in the transport sector, where the Council of Ministers has quite clearly failed to meet its Treaty obligations."

Despite publication in the parliament, its members cannot claim an unqualified victory. The court did not support the parliament's contention that the council was at fault for failing to have agreed a common transport policy. It said that the council had the discretion to organise its objectives on that front and that the Treaty did not lay a sufficiently specific duty on the council for the court to determine whether it was failing to act.

The council was at fault, the court said, in not having established the freedom to provide transport services within the Community. That requires the elimination of discrimination against the provider of services because of his or her nationality or because of residence in another member-state.

The council had failed to take measures establishing freedom of services which the Treaty said should be taken within a transitional period.

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EEC clash over drivers' hours, Page 2

Chairman quits  
embattled U.S.  
defence group

BY PAUL TAYLOR IN NEW YORK

GENERAL DYNAMICS, the highest U.S. defence contractor, which is at the centre of a barrage of allegations about Pentagon overcharging and business misconduct, announced yesterday that its chairman, Mr David S. Lewis, was to leave.

Mr Lewis, who said he had been "planning to retire since the latter part of 1983", but had stayed on to help the St Louis-based group deal with "extremely heavy outside pressures", will be replaced by Mr Stanley Pace, vice-chairman of the TRW Corporation, another big U.S. defence contractor.

Mr Pace, aged 63, will become vice-chairman of General Dynamics at the start of next month and will succeed Mr Lewis as chairman of the \$7bn-a-year military giant "not later than January 1, 1986."

The move comes the day after Mr John Lehman, the U.S. Navy Secretary, suspended the signing of all new contracts with the company's main divisions and imposed other sanctions against the group for "pervasive" corporate misconduct.

Mr Lehman, while rejecting a recommendation by the Pentagon's inspector-general to bar three senior General Dynamics executives, including Mr Lewis, for future defence business, also cancelled two missile contracts worth \$22.5m and imposed a \$679,233 fine on the com-

pany for giving retired Admiral Hyman Rickover gifts valued at \$87,628.

Mr Lehman said the contract ban would remain in place until General Dynamics had satisfied the department that it had a "rigorous code of ethics" for its officers, had resubmitted certified overhead claims and settled about \$73m in disputed overhead charges.

The firestorm of allegations, which have seriously tarnished General Dynamics' public image in recent months, centre on claims by Pentagon and congressional investigators together with accusations made by Mr P. Takis Veliotis, a former senior Dynamics executive who is now a fugitive from federal kickback charges.

Mr Lewis, who has steadfastly defended his company against the charges, is widely credited with turning round the once-ailing group and building it into the nation's biggest defence contractor with profits last year of almost \$400m and major military contracts ranging from F-16 fighter jets to M1 tanks, cruise missiles and Trident nuclear submarines.

Yesterday, in a brief statement, he said he was "confident" that, under Stanley Pace's leadership the men and women of General Dy-

Continued on Page 28

Men and Matters, Page 26

British stores group  
faces £492m bid

BY LIONEL BARBER IN LONDON

TWO of the UK's leading retailers, the Burton menswear group and Habitat/Mothercare, yesterday joined forces to launch a £492m (\$625m) hostile takeover bid for Debenhams, Britain's second largest stores group.

The cash and shares bid is technically made by Burton. However Habitat/Mothercare will have a key role in the new partnership including redesigning Debenhams' 67 stores, taking up 20 per cent of trading space, and an option to buy a 20 per cent equity stake.

Debenhams, advised by N. M. Rothschild, immediately rejected the widely forecast Burton bid as "inadequate in the extreme". Mr Bob Thornton, Debenhams' chairman, said he intended to pursue the idea of a management buyout to save off the bid.

Mr Thornton, who has raised the possibility of a £600m management buyout with UK and U.S. institutional backing, is to hold a meeting with his own merchant bank advisers, Kleinwort Benson, today.

The stock market appeared to give its blessing to the proposed deal, marking shares of all parties concerned well up on the day. Underwriting for the new Burton shares was completed easily.

On the basis of last night's closing price of Burton, up 44p to 502p, the bid values Debenhams at 351p a share. After an initial surge, Debenhams closed at 362p, up 35p on the day, while Habitat/Mothercare rose 22p to close at 384p.

Burton is offering three new ordinary shares of 50p each and £2.50 in cash for each Debenhams share.

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HOW TO BOOST YOUR P.E. RATIO

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## EUROPEAN NEWS

## Plan for European TV production pact

BY RAYMOND SNODDY IN LONDON

CHANNEL 4, an independent UK television channel, is playing a key role in trying to set up joint programme production agreements with major European television organisations.

The aim is to cut production costs through co-operation, and plough the savings into a higher level of quality European television production and reduce the level of U.S. imports.

A draft agreement has already been produced for joint production between Channel 4, Antenne 2 of France and Rai 1 of Italy.

Its main recommendation is that

participating television or film organisations should devote a proportion of their total programme expenditure on joint productions. This proportion could then increase by a series of annual increments.

The French and the British Governments are believed to be interested in the plan - partly as an alternative to suggestions within the EEC Commission for the setting up of a programme-making fund to boost European production.

The British Government in particular believes a "self-help" initiative is more likely to work than the creation of a new European pro-

gramme-making bureaucracy. By avoiding duplication of programme making in different European countries, substantial savings are believed possible.

Overall, European production expenditure is considerably larger than in the U.S. But the European effort is dissipated because of duplication in 18 nation states with different languages and cultures.

A meeting will be held in Paris tomorrow attended by television companies from six European nations to try to agree a co-ordinated approach.

The initiative began as the result

of a joint production deal put together by Mr Justin Dukes, managing director of Channel 4.

Channel 4 and Antenne 2 have recently completed a film drama called Les Louves made by bilingual actors. Both organisations are said to be very happy with the result and the cost to each is 60 per cent of what it would have been if they had acted alone.

The initiative attracted the attention of the French Government and Channel 4 executives were invited for discussions at the Elysée Palace.

Channel 4 believes that as much

as 20 per cent of European programme production could be produced on a shared basis. Music, sport and the arts are seen as particularly appropriate.

Senior executives of six television organisations representing Britain, France, Austria, Switzerland, Italy and West Germany, met in Mainz, Germany, last Monday. The discussions centred on joint production of European drama.

The meeting in Paris tomorrow will try to co-ordinate the approach of the six with the draft proposals already hammered out between Channel 4, Antenne 2 and Rai.

## IMF chief attacks U.S. budget deficit

By Patrick Blum in Vienna

THE MANAGING director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), M. Jacques de Larosiere yesterday made an attack on the U.S. budget deficit, castigating the U.S. for its high budget deficit and warning Europe that it would benefit only if it put its own economic house in order.

In a keynote speech last night in Vienna, he also praised the efforts of developing countries to reduce their debts but warned against any relaxation in policies.

De Larosiere outlined the main conclusions drawn by an intensive review carried out over recent months by the IMF setting out policies for the rest of the decade.

Policy makers faced two major challenges: to ensure that the recovery endures and to reduce the developing countries' indebtedness. These goals could only be achieved by lower government demands on resources, greater market flexibility and reversing the protectionist tide.

Much progress had been made to control inflation, he said, but government budget deficits often remained far too high. The U.S. budget deficit, he said, was "contributing to a potentially unsustainable situation."

U.S. debt continued to grow rapidly and interest payments now accounted for more than 4 per cent of GNP or over 15 per cent of the U.S. Government's expenditure.

This, coupled with a strong growth in private investment, contributed to keeping interest rates high. "It is difficult to foresee how events would unfold if the fiscal stance (of the U.S.) were to remain unchanged, because the economy and the financial system would be moving into uncharted territory," he said.

Continued U.S. current account deficits in excess of \$20 billion a year are not sustainable.

European countries faced an equally arduous task. Government expenditure represented about 35 per cent of GNP in the U.S., while it averaged near 50 per cent of GNP in Europe. This, he said, was an intrinsic structural weakness that had to be corrected.

De Larosiere suggested that Europe was plagued by "unstable" pricing policies, "inflation policies which undermined investment, savings and employment, excessive government regulations and protectionism. He said that these had been a root cause of unemployment.

Turning to the developing countries, he underlined the need for continuing adjustment efforts.

## French and German ministers to meet on star wars role

BY DAVID HOUSEGO IN PARIS

FOREIGN and Defence Ministers from France and West Germany are to hold a special meeting before the end of the month in an effort to narrow Franco-German differences over participation in the U.S. Strategic Defence Initiative.

The proposed meeting was announced by Herr Hans Dietrich Genscher after his talks with President François Mitterrand and M. Roland Dumas, the French Foreign Minister in Paris yesterday.

At the same time Herr Genscher gave further impetus to Franco-German proposals, saying that European technological co-operation was essential whatever was decided over SDI.

The Foreign and Defence ministers from the two countries will meet in advance of the summit between President Mitterrand and Chancellor Helmut Kohl in Bonn on May 28. The need for further consultation follows the sharp differences that emerged at the Bonn summit of industrialised nations, with France declining participation in the U.S. programme and West Germany declaring it was in favour.

More recently Chancellor Kohl has modified the West German position in saying that SDI presented

both opportunities and risks.

Both Governments were anxious yesterday to remove the impression that disagreements at the Bonn summit and within the EC had done any lasting damage to Franco-German relations.

Herr Genscher put the forthcoming contacts between Defence and Foreign ministers - designed to give fresh impetus to the relationship - in the context of co-ordinating views over strategic issues, including the Geneva disarmament talks.

At a press conference after yesterday's talks, Herr Genscher referred indirectly to the possibility of some German companies taking part in the French Bureks project.

Before then European research and technology ministers will attempt to give further definition to the Bureks project at their meeting in Luxembourg on June 3-4.

They will discuss the timing of the proposed high-level multi-lateral gathering of experts. Bureks has been discussed up to now in bilateral contacts between European governments.

Star wars, Page 7

## EEC clash looms on drivers' working hours

BY PAUL CHEESERIGHT IN BRUSSELS

TRANSPORT MINISTERS of the European Community, already chastised by the Court of Justice, today face the prospect of another institutional row this time with the Commission over the length of time drivers should be allowed to work.

The Commission is making it clear that it will withdraw proposals to revise the legal working hours of drivers if the ministers seek to replace them with less flexible suggestions on the balance between driving and rest periods.

Officials of the Ten are broadly in agreement on working hours but have adopted a

different approach from that of the Commission, whose proposals are very close to those acceptable to the Parliament and negotiated by both sides of industry.

If the Commission carries through its threat, it will be the first time it has withdrawn a proposal placed before ministers. To take decisions, ministers legally need before them a Commission proposal.

But the issue could put the transport ministers into the Court of Justice for a second time, as there are differing views about the Commission's right to withdraw proposals. Commission lawyers say they

can be withdrawn, but council lawyers say they cannot.

In the early days of the present Commission, M. Jacques Delors, the president, claimed that the withdrawal of proposals was a weapon which could be used in discussions in the Council of Ministers bogged down.

That has notoriously been the case in the Transport Council - hence the action by the European Parliament, which led yesterday to a court decision against the ministers for their failure to take liberalising moves in line with the Treaty of Rome, setting up the EEC.

But today's meeting of mini-

sters is unlikely to show that the court decision has had much effect on speeding deliberations.

The response of Italy, currently president of the EEC, to the court action has been to devise and present a transport "master plan" to the other Nine.

Although this document lacks a timetable either for liberalising transport policy or for harmonising existing practice, it is now accompanied by about 50 reservations from national delegations. It is therefore unlikely to be accepted. Italy had been hoping for rapid acceptance as a move towards the Treaty's undertaking to reach a common transport policy.

## Sartzetakis embroiled in Greek poll campaign

By Andriana Ierodimitrou in Athens

THE CONTROVERSIAL election in March of Mr Christos Sartzetakis as Greek President has moved to the forefront of the tough general election contest between the governing Socialists and the Conservative New Democracy opposition.

It was the election of Mr Sartzetakis that led to an early general election being called for June 2.

Mr Constantine Mitsotakis, Conservative leader, said on Monday that he would expect the president to resign if New Democracy carries the day on June 2.

The Conservatives denounced the presidential election as unconstitutional, and challenged the Government to a general election contest, while refusing to recognise Mr Sartzetakis.

The President has angrily rejected Mr Mitsotakis's suggestion that he intends to serve his five-year term "to the last day."

He was proposed as a presidential candidate by the Socialists after a surprise decision not to support the re-election of Mr Constantine Karamanlis, a Conservative. He was elected thanks to a voting alliance in Parliament between the Socialists and the pro-Moscow Communist opposition.

Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Prime Minister, has now called on Mr Mitsotakis to make clear whether he still intends to challenge the President after the latter's declared intention not to resign voluntarily. He warned that the Conservatives risk plunging the country into a constitutional crisis.

New Democracy, which responded by accusing the President of acting as "an instrument of the Socialists," is in a quandary. Given the lack of a constitutional crisis in Greece, it is unclear what recourse the Conservatives could have against the President.

One suggestion is that they might ask Parliament to decide whether the vote of the acting president, a Socialist deputy, in the presidential election was valid constitutionally.

It was thanks to this vote that the Socialists scraped together the required majority for their candidate. Many constitutional experts dispute the acting President's right to vote but the Government got around the problem by putting the issue before Parliament.

IT IS hard to avoid John le Carré or Graham Greene images in New Caledonia. Violence in the French Pacific territory has spiralled in recent months as native Melanesian pro-independence groups clash with fiercely anti-independence, mainly white settlers.

Groups of Melanesians, dressed in combat fatigues and sporting Che Guevara-style beards, roam the hinterland launching attacks on isolated white farms. One of their number, Elie Machoro, has become a Melanesian folk hero since his death in a shoot-out with French police.

Many of the white settlers live an increasingly barricaded existence: one of the more militant Melanesians, formerly in the French army and owner of a body-building business, lives surrounded by body guards in his hill-top retreat just outside Nouméa. His boat and supplies are hoisted up by helicopter since his death in a shoot-out with French police.

Most people admit that attitudes in New Caledonia are hardening, with France becoming involved in the kind of Algerian quagmire of violence it wanted to avoid at all costs.

Each side has different views on the cause of the troubles. The white settlers blame first and foremost the Government of President François Mitterrand, which is hated with a singular passion. The object of this resentment in New Caledonia was M. Edgar Pisani, the Governor's special envoy, who was recalled to Paris last Tuesday. He will be replaced in Nouméa by M. Fernand Wilbaux, present ambassador to Lebanon.

The Government, say the white settlers, has encouraged Melanesian violence by its liberal ideas about independence. They point to the fact that the Melanesians make up only 42 per cent of New Caledonia's population of just less than 150,000.

The Melanesians are not ready for independence anyway, say the white settlers: if

## Stage set in New Caledonia for continued independence clashes

BY KIERAN COOKE, RECENTLY IN NOUMÉA

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the 90 people injured, some of them seriously.

The authorities blamed the anti-independence Republican Party (RPR) for starting the riots, the main Melanesian Socialist Liberation Front (FLNKS) said that for the first time the anti-independence forces had become deliberately racial.

France, in what is seen as an attempt to decentralise power away from Nouméa, plans to split the territory into four regions, each with a large degree of autonomy. A referendum on independence would then be held by the end of 1987 at the latest.

It is ultimately hoped for is independence, with France maintaining much of the control over defence and external affairs, guaranteeing the rights of those who wish to remain French citizens in the new republic, while at the same time satisfying the fundamental demand of the Melanesians.

The Melanesians are largely behind the plan although, for the more militant, it does not promise independence soon enough.

However, the anti-independence forces see only evidence of the "marxist policies" of the Mitterrand government in the plan. The leader of the RPR, M. Jacques Laheur, described it all as a "monstrous" booby.

Opponents of independence have successfully rallied the Opposition in France behind their cause: the RPR believes that when the Socialists suffer a resounding defeat in next year's national assembly elections M. Mitterrand will be forced to scrap his ill-conceived programme.

There is little doubt that, under those circumstances, the Melanesians would declare open war.

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## U.S. warning on steel export restraints

BY TERRY DODSWORTH IN NEW YORK

THE U.S. Steel industry has warned the EEC that it will press the Reagan Administration to stiffen the current agreement on steel export restraints when it comes to renegotiate the deal in December.

The warning followed a return to the offensive by European foreign ministers over U.S. steel import policy.

In particular, the U.S. manufacturers are aiming to bring the European producers under an export licensing system of the type that has recently been negotiated with other trading partners.

They are also considering the extension of the original 1982 restraint agreement to stainless steel products. Under the terms of the 1982 agreement, EEC steel exports are limited to 5.4 per cent of the

U.S. market, but this restriction mainly applies to carbon steel products.

The U.S. steel industry's position on the EEC was laid out yesterday by Mr David Hoag, chairman of LTV Steel, at the annual meeting of the American Iron and Steel Institute in New York.

"I read in the paper that the Europeans are approaching this negotiation with their concerns," he said. "They should understand that our Government and the domestic steel industry have their own list of needs to be met if there is going to be a successful renewal of this agreement. We will only defer enforcing our rights under our current trade laws if we believe that we have an agreement that is fair to us."

Mr Hoag's comments were backed up by even more forceful remarks from other steel industry executives, who said that the EEC would be receiving an "extremely generous deal" on these terms given the way European manufacturers had violated the agreement in the past.

"We want to avoid the type of abuses that occurred in the old system," said another senior executive. "We want the same arrangements as those we have with Japan, no more and no less."

Concern over the future of the EEC agreement comes in the wake of President Reagan's decision last September to limit imports to the U.S. to 16.5 per cent of the finished steel market, and 1.7 per cent of unfinished products.

Since then, Administration officials have been engaged in a series of intensive negotiations with many steel exporters, and have reached agreement with several of them.

However, Mr Hoag said yesterday that he expected steel imports this year to amount to around 24 per cent of the market. After averaging 29.3 per cent in 1983, imports came to 30.3 per cent in January, he said, falling to 27.1 per cent in February, and to 24.5 per cent in March.

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## Steelmakers' production quotas tightened

BY PAUL CHEESERIGHT IN BRUSSELS

PRODUCTION quotas for steelmakers in the European Community are being tightened up for the third quarter.

The European Commission yesterday announced quota cuts for all the products, except wire rods, covered by the EEC control system designed to provide stability on the market while companies restructure.

Steel demand tends to slip in the third quarter as plants close for the summer holiday and the Commission has therefore continued the restrictive policy which was evident in quota calculations for the second quarter.

But it also remains concerned

EEC PRODUCTION QUOTAS (100,000 tons)				
	4th qtr 1984	1st qtr 1985	2nd qtr 1985	3rd qtr 1985
Hot rolled coils	4,354	4,070	4,328	3,967
Cold rolled sheet	3,631	3,574	3,711	3,329
Galvanised sheet	958	905	934	877
Other coated flat products	80	818	829	729
Longitudinal products	1,293	1,293	1,300	1,255
Wide bands, sections	1,049	1,049	1,122	1,042
Wire rods	2,543	2,484	2,570	2,570
Reinforcing bars	1,741	1,709	1,748	1,737
Merchant bars	2,345	2,192	2,199	2,167

about the patchy demand in specific sectors—cars and construction, for example.

The market has remained steady for wire rod, however,

and minimum prices, also set by the Commission, have been holding.

Reports from the market suggest that although the steel-

makers have complained about the restrictive quotas, supply and demand are at present in balance, although in some respects the minimum prices are not being observed.

This is especially the case for merchant bars where some French exporters are said to be very aggressive on the market, and for coils in France where the market is weak.

But overall, output levels in April were just over 5 per cent more than a year before at 10.9 million tonnes of crude steel in the first month of the quarter production at 10.9m was the highest in a single month for over two years.

## Gandhi signs two accords with Moscow

By Patrick Cockburn in Moscow

MR RAJIV GANDHI, the Indian Prime Minister, and Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader, signed two economic agreements yesterday, at the conclusion of Mr Gandhi's two-day visit to Moscow.

The Soviet Union is to make a Rouble 1bn (£926m) credit available to India, to be used for the construction of a power plant in Eibar, an open-cast coal-mining project in which Soviet enterprises will participate. An agreement on trade and scientific co-operation over the next 15 years was also signed.

Mr Gandhi was studiously neutral and terse at the news conference at the end of his first foreign visit as head of state. He stressed that the Soviet Union was a long-time friend and ally of India, but he made few remarks offensive to the U.S.

## Danish foreign exchange reforms should close interest rates gap

BY HILARY BARNES IN COPENHAGEN

THE FURTHER liberalisation of Danish foreign exchange regulations, the third set of measures announced by the present government since 1983, is expected to narrow the gap between Danish and key international interest rates.

The action reflects the confidence of the markets in the non-Socialist coalition government's economic policies and especially its determination to maintain the exchange rate, according to Ms Kirsten Mortensen, of the Danish central bank.

The regulations take effect on June 1. The most important change is a reduction from five years to one year in the minimum maturity of loans made abroad by domestic businesses. There is no upper limit on the size of these loans.

This will reduce significantly the exchange risk and will

make D-Mark loans particularly attractive, according to bankers. Under the present conditions, companies can borrow in West Germany at about 7 per cent and place the money in the Danish bond market at effective yields varying from 10.3 to 12.4 per cent on government paper and up to 12.9 per cent on mortgage bonds.

Mr Tage Andersen, chairman of the Bankers' Association, has called on the national bank to ease restrictions on domestic bank lending, subject to a limit of 10 per cent in the annual rate of increase. He says an easing of restrictions is necessary to prevent business being taken by foreign banks.

The central bank has not so far commented on this proposal. Other changes in the exchange regulations include: ● The general limit for foreign exchange transfers of all kinds

which are exempt from all restrictions is raised from Dkr 25,000 (£1,785) to Dkr 40,000.

● The limit on direct investment by foreigners in Denmark and by Danes abroad which does not require permission is raised from Dkr 5m to Dkr 10m.

● Danes will be permitted to invest in shares in unlisted companies abroad, but this will require national bank authorisation.

● The time limit for repatriating currency held in bank accounts abroad by Danish companies will be extended from one month to three months.

In 1983 the Government opened up for investment by foreigners in Danish bonds and shares and in January this year restrictions on Danish portfolio investments in listed companies abroad were ended.

## Albania holds trade talks

By Leslie Collitt in Berlin

ALBANIA is demonstrating that it intends to reduce at least partially its economic and political isolation by negotiating with two of its neighbours - Yugoslavia and Italy - on improving trade and communications.

A Yugoslav trade delegation met in Tirana with Mr Shane Korbec, the Albanian Foreign Trade Minister, while Mr Ferdinand Taka, Albania's deputy Transport Minister, negotiated in Belgrade with Mr Mustafa Ejekic, the Yugoslav Transport Minister. Albania also held talks with Italy.

The Belgrade talks centred on the completion of a rail link between the two countries which is to be Albania's first with any country. Construction of the railway line began several years ago with Albania claiming it has completed its section of the line and hinting that Yugoslavia was delaying completion for political reasons.

Polish universities have so far managed to avoid widespread political purges in the wake of the ban on Solidarity in 1981 and the present law giving them a wide measure of autonomy was passed in 1982 as a goodwill gesture by the Government.

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The Mulroney Government promises its first Federal Budget will be 'tough but fair,' writes Bernard Simon in Toronto

## Canada's Tory leadership faces the economic acid test

THE CREDIBILITY of Canada's eight-month-old Progressive Conservative Government will be on the line tonight when Mr. Michael Wilson, Finance Minister, presents his first budget to Parliament in Ottawa.

The budget is seen in many quarters as an acid test of the Government's ability to provide the decisive leadership which was expected from the Tories after their landslide election win last September, but which they have so far been slow to deliver. If Mr. Wilson fails to come to grips with the country's economic problems, there is considerable concern that international financial markets will reassess prospects for the Canadian economy.

Mr. Wilson has given few clues to his strategy for dealing with a worrying budget shortfall that is proportionately far larger than the U.S. deficit. Debt servicing has become the fastest growing item of Federal Government spending. It is expected to consume 36 per cent of government revenues this year.

Mr. Wilson has so far merely said that the budget will be "tough but fair," suggesting that at least some tax increases and curbs on Government spending are planned. Mr. Brian Mulroney, the Prime Minister, said earlier this week that cutting the deficit will be a key aim of the budget.



Lévesque: prone to gaffes in public.

The unusual level of interest in the budget largely reflects widespread disappointment, especially in business circles, with the conservatives' performance since last September. Swept into office with one of the biggest majorities in Canadian history, the Government has done little—beyond a slew of patronage appointments—to put the country on a fresh tack after 20 years of almost unbroken Liberal Party rule.

No astute Canada-watcher expected the Mulroney Admin-

### Parti Quebecois in disarray as by-election losses loom

THE Parti Quebecois Government of Premier René Lévesque is in deepening disarray as four by-elections approach on June 3, Robert Gibbins reports from Montreal.

The PQ is expected to lose all four, including one to Mr. Robert Bourassa, the Liberal Party premier of Quebec from 1970 to 1976 and the re-elected leader of the opposition Quebec Liberals. If that proves true, M. Lévesque would have lost all 26 by-elections since coming to power in 1976 though he did win two general elections on the way. He would face a

crisis in the provincial legislature. The PQ holds 62 seats, the Liberals 49, independents six and there are five vacancies. The independents are mostly disaffected PQ members.

Several cabinet ministers, including M. Jacques Parizeau, the Finance Minister, and some backbenchers resigned last autumn after M. Lévesque declared that the independence from Canada option would be dropped from the PQ platform in the next election which must be held by next spring at the latest.

In shifting his political stance, M. Lévesque was aware of his own party polls indi-

cating loss of interest in independence among Quebecers and of the popularity of Canada's Prime Minister, Mr. Brian Mulroney, also a Quebecer, in the province.

Since then, the rift in the Cabinet and within the party has widened on the issues of independence and whether a form of special status for the French-speaking province can be worked out with the Mulroney Government. An unpopular budget last month has made matters worse and complaints abound that the provincial government is no longer making any major decisions.

M. Lévesque finally decided

to call the four by-elections, hoping to score points with a list of constitutional proposals for Quebec's status within Canada.

The premier has been irritable and sometimes incoherent in the provincial legislature and prone to gaffes in his public appearances. Yet in spite of his lagging public support for the PQ, he has led M. Bourassa in the opinion polls.

The provincial election is now expected in the autumn but speculation is rising whether Mr. Lévesque himself or the Government can survive if all four by-elections are lost.



Wilson: few clues on budget strategy.

On the energy front, the Government has set out a timetable for dismantling key provisions of the controversial National Energy Program, adopted by the Liberals in 1980. A revenue tax on oil and gas producers will be phased out over the next four years and domestic oil prices will be de-controlled on June 1.

Mr. Wilson is expected to announce in the budget the abolition of the much-criticised "back-in" provision of the NEP which has given the Canadian Government an automatic right to 25 per cent of new oil and gas discoveries in the Arctic and off the East coast.

The new energy policy, which is deeply influenced by a Tory Government in the main producing province of Alberta, has complicated Mr. Wilson's plans for a deficit-cutting budget. Barring an energy boom, the costs to the exchequer of the new measures will far outweigh savings. So concessions to producers will almost certainly have to be offset by increases in consumer taxes on petroleum products.

Mr. Wilson now has to balance his need for higher revenues against the knowledge that big tax increases on oil and gas consumption will diminish the Tories' chance of sustaining their minority Government in Ontario.

### Reagan offers to cut MX programme

BY REGINALD DALE, U.S. EDITOR IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Ronald Reagan, faced with the threat of a serious defeat in the Republican-controlled Senate, has offered, at least temporarily, to halve the size of his controversial MX intercontinental missile programme.

In desperate negotiations to stave off an even bigger blow to the programme, the White House has offered to hold deployment at 50 of the 10-warhead missiles while considering if the full complement of 100 that Mr. Reagan wants is really needed.

The concession in effect acknowledges that, for the foreseeable future, Mr. Reagan has no chance of persuading an increasingly hostile Congress to fund the full MX force.

The White House hurriedly moved to its fall-back position on the missile after it became clear that an amendment that would cap deployment at 40 had a good chance of passing the Senate. Voting on the amendment sponsored by Democratic Senator Sam Nunn of Georgia, was expected later last night.

The new threat to the MX programme comes less than months after Mr. Reagan triumphantly succeeded in winning Congressional support for a

batch of 21 MXs, in addition to the 21 already approved, bringing the total so far authorised to 42.

The Nunn amendment, attached to next year's defence budget, would allow for 12 more missiles to be funded in fiscal 1986, which begins on October 1, for a total of 54. Only 40, however, would be deployed, with the remaining 14 to be used for testing and spares.

The White House was insistent, however, that it was not necessarily abandoning the 100-missile target, which is already only half the 200 missiles originally sought by Mr. Jimmy Carter, the former president.

"What we're trying to say is, let's pause at 50," said one Administration official. "Then let's look at it in a year, or a year and a half. Let's see if we go beyond that."

The White House wants to avoid any suggestion of a once-and-for-all cap on the MX force, so as to leave itself free to request further missiles if arms control talks with the Soviet Union break down. Even with a pause at 50, however, many Administration officials are deeply concerned that the U.S. negotiating position in Geneva will be undermined.

### Sanctions Bill success

A BILL imposing U.S. economic sanctions on South Africa has easily cleared its first hurdle in the House of Representatives, suggesting that it will pass without major changes when final voting takes place early next month, Reginald Dale reports.

The Anti-Apartheid Act, sponsored by a bipartisan coalition of more than 100 of the House's 435 members, would prohibit new loans to South Africa, end new investment, ban imports into the

U.S. of gold kruggerand coins and stop sales of American consular equipment to the South African Government.

Similar legislation was passed by the House last year, but foundered in conference negotiations with the Republican-led Senate, which had adopted a much milder version. With anti-apartheid feeling in both houses now much stronger, the Senate is more likely to toughen its stance this time round.

### U.S. capital goods orders fall sharply in April

BY STEWART FLEMING IN WASHINGTON

NEW ORDERS for capital goods in the U.S. fell sharply in April for the second consecutive month, the Commerce Department reported.

Although overall durable goods orders rose 1 per cent in April after declining in February and March, defence capital goods orders fell 6.9 per cent after a 7.8 per cent fall in March.

Mr. Henry Wallich, Federal Reserve Governor, said yesterday: "The economy is in good shape with the exception of the budget deficit and the trade deficit." He doubted the U.S. economy was heading for a mild recession.

Mr. Wallich noted a slowing

in the growth of business investment, however. "The rate of business investment which grew in 1984 at a spectacular rate of 20 per cent has slowed down to 3.5 per cent during the first quarter of the year."

Governor Wallich's remarks seem to suggest he does not see immediate need for further easing of monetary policy.

Dr. Henry Kaufman, the Salomon Brothers chief economist, said: "Monetary policy has changed significantly during the past six months both in terms of strategy and emphasis. Current policy focuses more on monetary relations and much less on aggressive methods to combat inflation."

### Argentina 'near deal with IMF on standby loan'

BY JIMMY BURNS IN BUENOS AIRES

THE ARGENTINE Government yesterday claimed to be entering the final phase of negotiations with the International Monetary Fund on a \$1.4bn (£921m) standby agreement needed to unlock a \$42bn loan from creditor banks.

Dr. Jose Luis Machinea, the Argentine under-secretary for the economy, who has been negotiating with the Fund, said: "The technical aspects are now practically concluded, so I am optimistic there will be an agreement by the end of next week."

He was speaking on the eve of his departure for Washington to resume talks with the IMF.

Disagreements over monetary and fiscal targets led to a temporary suspension of these talks 10 days ago. Dr. Machinea claimed the gap between the two sides had substantially narrowed.

"We are conscious we cannot delay this agreement much longer as our room for manoeuvre is narrowing," he said.

A standby agreement with the IMF, broken off earlier this year, needs to be renegotiated before commercial banks can consider providing a \$42bn (£26.8bn) loan and the rescheduling of an estimated \$20bn in debt.

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## WORLD TRADE NEWS

## KWU shares in order for Greek power station

BY JOHN DAVIES IN FRANKFURT

AN INTERNATIONAL consortium involving Kraftwerk Union (KWU) of West Germany, has won an order against stiff competition for a 300 Mw brown coal-fired power station in Greece.

The contract, which envisages a high degree of local manufacture and transfer of know-how, is worth a total of about DM 500m (£128m).

The power station, for the public electricity network, will be the fourth of its type to be built in an area of brown coal deposits at Megalopolis, 250 km south-west of Athens.

With the world's power-station equipment suppliers competing hard for scarce orders in recent years, the consortium was anxious to clinch the Greek deal by putting together a package involving a boost to local industry and employment.

West German and Belgian companies in the consortium will work in partnership with local Greek companies. KWU, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Siemens electrical group of West Germany, will be technical leader of the consortium, but a Greek concern will act as the

consortium's local administrator. KWU will supply the turbo-generator and various other electrical equipment, working in conjunction with local manufacturing subsidiaries of Siemens in Greece.

Other members of the consortium include Veeinigte Kasselwerke of West Germany in partnership with Biokat of Athens, Hamon Sobelco of Belgium working with Technika Union of Athens and Transformatoren Union of West Germany, a Siemens subsidiary. A KWU executive said yesterday that the present world market for conventional power stations was only enough to keep busy about an eighth of the manufacturing capacity of plant suppliers.

In this case, the consortium had advantages over competitors, including involvement in the three earlier plants in the region, using a specially-developed combustion process for use with brown coal.

Orders won by KWU in Greece, India and Egypt have been helping the company to sustain machine capacity. The new Greek power station is due to come on stream in the middle of next year.

## China airline buys eight jets from Boeing

By Our Peking Correspondent

CHINA'S national airline, the Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC), has bought eight jets from Boeing, a CAAC spokesman announced yesterday.

No purchase price was revealed for the five Boeing 737-300s, two 747s and one 747, but the order is believed to be worth more than \$320m (£266m).

Mr. Dean Thornton, president and chief executive of Boeing Commercial Airplane Company, has arrived in Peking to meet Hu Yizhou, CAAC's director-general, the spokesman added.

The contract was signed in Peking at the weekend, and the delivery of the aircraft will begin in September and should be completed by the end of this year. Under the contract, Boeing will assist CAAC in training pilots and ground crew.

CAAC has already bought 37 Boeing aircraft, including 37 747s and 19 737s.

It is a contract worth more than \$9m (£7.5m), Sperry said to supply CAC with a 1100-74 multi-processor mainframe and the Sperry Ucas software package, a Sperry spokesman said yesterday.

AS EUROPEAN industry consists largely of business corporations, big and small, it is hardly surprising that the European Commission believes it to be essential to have a uniform company law in the common market. The real need for this is open to dispute. The U.S. manages to survive as a common market of 50 states with different company laws, and a Federal Securities and Exchange Commission into the bargain.

Nevertheless, the harmonisation of company law might play a useful part in bringing the European market place together and seeing that European companies compete on an equitable basis and can be better compared one with another.

The EEC has made important progress towards bringing the national company laws closer together in the field of accounting and disclosure. But it has stumbled over the Commission's attempt to impose the West German model of two-tier management and worker participation throughout the EEC. And it has not so far tackled some rather important varieties, such as the distinction between issued and paid up capital which is known only in Britain and the Netherlands.

Harmonisation started to bite with the Fourth directive, adopted in 1978. Its purpose is the harmonisation of accounting and disclosure by private and public companies, with the exception of banks and insurance companies. It deals with

the layout and content of the annual accounts.

The next important directive was the Seventh requiring the consolidation of group accounts and prescribing their format, audit and publication in the group's annual report. Complementary to these two is the Eighth directive on the qualifications and independence of auditors. These directives have been adopted and must now be honoured in national laws.

The Commission has on the table three further projects concerning accounts and disclosure: two of these would extend the accounting rules to banks and insurance companies, while the third would deal with the accounts of EEC-based subsidiaries of banks with headquarters outside the EEC.

The Fifth directive, and the so-called Vredeling proposal, have been the two most controversial projects of the Commission because of their proposed involvement of workers in management. The two-tier management structure with workers represented on the supervisory board, proposed in the draft Fifth directive, is a norm in West Germany but is viewed with suspicion elsewhere.

The second objective of the draft Fifth directive is the representation of workers in the management structure. The idea is taken from West German company law where the ground for it was prepared gradually, starting in the 1870s when Bismarck realised that consensual industrial relations were indispensable to a country relying

BY A. H. HERMANN, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT



on a large conscript army.

But despite the apparent advantage of consensus, of a single trade union for each separate industry, and of mutual trust achieved by giving workers access to information about their company's affairs, Brussels will find it hard to impose the system on the essentially adversarial system of settling industrial disputes in the UK.

Even greater alarm, not only in Europe but also in the U.S. was caused by the Vredeling project which proposed mandatory information and consultation of employees about the worldwide activities and plans of multinational companies.

In parallel with this slice-by-slice approach to harmonisation, the Commission has also attempted to introduce a uniform EEC company law by the back door, in the form of a European Company Statute. A Draft Statute produced in 1970 envisaged the facilitation of co-operation between national companies incorporated in different member states. Euro-

pean companies at home in the entire Community could, according to this proposal, result from a merger or could serve as a joint subsidiary or holding company of national companies situated in different member states.

This project was keenly supported by the European integrationists. It failed because it was again burdened with a controversial provision for worker participation. Moreover, the project provided no solution to the problem of multinational taxation.

A more modest approach to building cross-border bridges between companies is the recently-revived project of the European Economic Interest Grouping (EEIG). This would avoid the taxation problems and has a fair chance of success. An EEIG is proposed as a partnership without legal personality, whose profits would accrue directly to the individual companies forming it.

It is modelled on the groupement d'intérêt économique introduced in France in 1967. The Commission's intention is to make cross-border co-operation between smaller firms easier.

The EEIG would be preceded from independent manufacturing activities, but it could co-ordinate purchases, sales and research for its members. It could tender for contracts on their behalf, provide transport services or manufacture component parts for them, and should have no more than 500 employees.

The EEIG may be a tempting proposition in countries such as France where it takes six months to establish a private limited company. However, it has the disadvantage of making each member of the group liable for the unpaid debts of the grouping directly and without any limit.

Another danger is that the grouping could attract suspicion that it operates as a cartel. If it placed on the activities of its members any restrictions prohibited under EEC rules of competition, it could be voided right from the beginning by the effect of Article 85/2 of the EEC Treaty.

Brussels has so far achieved quite a lot of good work on company law harmonisation, particularly in areas free from ideological conflicts. More could perhaps be done, and faster, if the Brussels apparatus was less introverted. Some years ago I talked to one of the Commission's officials, who had spent the best 15 years of his life drafting and re-drafting a company law directive which the member states would not accept. I suggested a few visits to member states to discover the basis of the resistance.

"I have no time for travel," was his surprising answer. "It is completely taken up by meetings and correspondence with other departments of the Commission."

This is the tenth in the series on European market liberalisation. The previous articles appeared on February 14, February 21, March 8, March 15, April 1, April 4, April 16 and May 10.

## Vickers disappointed over Australia submarine study

BY LYNTON MCLEAN

VICKERS Shipbuilding said it was very disappointed not to have been chosen to do project definition studies for six submarines for the Australian Government.

Nevertheless, Vickers has not given up all hope of winning the contract.

"We are not going to give up. Our first Type 2400 submarine, HMS Upholder for the Royal Navy, will be ready before the project definition studies have to be submitted by early 1988. We intend to show the submarine to Australia," Vickers said.

The eventual contract to build the six submarines would be worth A\$2.6bn (£1.4bn). Australia decided this week to ask only two of the original seven bidders, from Sweden and from West Germany, to do the project definition studies.

Kockums of Sweden is the bid against Howaldtswerke-Deutsche Werft (HDW) of West Germany for the final contract to build the submarines.

"I will only regard the contract as lost when Australia has chosen another company," Mr. Frank Noah, the commercial director of Vickers said.

"At the moment, we have lost the first stage and we hope

Australia does not close its eyes to our Type 2400 when we show it as proven submarine in service with the Royal Navy."

Vickers' pride had been "dented," Mr. Noah said. "We have asked Australia to inform us, under the terms of the tender, why we did not go to the project definition stage."

Originally, the Australians wanted one submarine to be built in the UK and five to be built in Australia. They now want all six submarines to be built in Australia.

Vickers had sought the A\$26m project definition study contract and approximately 30 per cent of the total contract value of the building programme in Australia, representing the value of the UK content of the submarines.

The six submarines are all to be conventional diesel-electric. Vickers' pride had been "dented," Mr. Noah said. "We have asked Australia to inform us, under the terms of the tender, why we did not go to the project definition stage."

A consortium led by Rockwell International of the U.S. and the Australian defence Minister, said, Kockums and HDW "offered the most advanced technology available in conventional submarines."

## UK, Malaysia hit new snag in flight talks

BY WONG SULONG IN KUALA LUMPUR

BRITAIN AND Malaysia have hit another snag in their protracted negotiations for a fifth weekly flight to their respective capitals.

British Airways (BA) and Malaysian Airline System representatives, meeting in Kuala Lumpur, yesterday failed to agree on the operational date for the fifth flight with BA putting up what MAS officials described as "new" demands.

The talks were held to discuss operational details following last month's "agreement in principle" between the British and Malaysian Prime Ministers, that both airlines should be allowed a fifth weekly flight within a year or two.

MAS wants to start the additional flight from June next year, to catch the summer traffic, and wanted discussions on future sixth and seventh flights.

BA representatives argued that an additional MAS flight to London before April 1987 would result in "economic disadvantage to BA" which needed

to be compensated.

BA therefore proposed to allow MAS to operate the extra flight starting in November 1986 on payment of a financial compensation, and that BA be given fifth flight freedom rights on the Kuala Lumpur-Bangkok and Kuala Lumpur-Abu Dhabi routes.

MAS officials described the BA demands as unreasonable because they said there was no mention of financial compensation in talks between the two Prime Ministers while the fifth flight freedom issue should be discussed separately based on reciprocity.

Previously, BA objected to a fifth MAS flight to London on grounds that the combined BA-MAS load factor had not reached the trigger point of 87 per cent.

AP reports from Washington: Boeing has received White House approval to fly between Miami and London, a route left vacant when Air Florida ceased operations last year, a Department of Transportation spokesman said.

## Aramco denies Saudi pipeline corrosion

By Finn Berre in Riyadh

THE ARABIAN American Oil Company (Aramco) has denied reports that corrosion damage on the existing East-West pipeline prompted construction of a new parallel crude oil pipeline. It says a recently completed inspection shows the line "is still in fine condition."

Aramco awarded two contracts, for the new pipeline, each of which was worth about \$80m (\$66m), to Saipem of Italy and to a consortium of the Lebanese contractor Consolidated Contractors International Company (CCO) and Mannesmann of Düsseldorf, West Germany.

Aramco is supervising the contract on behalf of the Saudi Government. The contract is expected to begin in June and finish in March 1987.

## Ozal defends Bosphorus bridge decision

TURKEY'S Prime Minister, Mr Turgut Ozal, yesterday defended his Government's decision to give a consortium of Japanese, Italian and Turkish companies the \$550m (£450m) contract to build a second bridge across the Bosphorus, agencies report.

"The contract was rightly given to the lowest bidder," he said at the end of a four-day visit to Japan.

Mr Ozal said the choice was unrelated to a ¥51.6bn (£166m) loan pledge by Japan to help build the bridge between Asian and European Turkey.

"The values of the contracts—whether there were credit or not—were quite far from each other," Mr Ozal stressed.

By Richard C. Hanson

Nikko Securities (Europe) plays a key role in the company's worldwide network of branches, and the revenues and profits of the London-based operation have, in recent years, seen strong increases in line with the company's rapid expansion in all areas of its activities in underwriting, primary and secondary capital markets and brokerage.

As one of the largest Japanese brokers in London, Nikko's international strategy for the future is to expand and strengthen both its underwriting and securities dealing capabilities.

The Nikko Securities Co., Ltd., is one of Japan's four leading securities companies. It was incorporated in 1944 by combining two companies, one of which had been operating in the Japanese securities industry since 1918.

Nikko has grown into a fully integrated financial services company, active in equity and bond markets as a broker, dealer, underwriter, and distributor. The company supports businesses in these areas with important complementary services, including research and investment consulting.

Nikko is a member of all eight Japanese stock exchanges, and its overseas subsidiaries have seats on the New York Stock Exchange and other important securities exchanges and futures markets around the world. Nikko has cultivated international business in brokerage, investment banking, and merchant banking through seven overseas subsidiaries and six representative offices, which operate in 17 locations overseas.

Mr. Masao Yuki, Chairman of the Nikko Securities Co., (Europe) Ltd., gives his views of how the Japanese and European markets will develop.

Hanson: Selling Japanese securities through London has traditionally been the major contributor to revenues for Nikko Securities (Europe). What's your outlook for the Tokyo stock market?

Upward Trend to Continue

Yuki: In general, the Tokyo stock market is now undergoing an adjustment due to three factors: The highest price levels in history have been successively achieved recently; difficult prospects for the U.S. economy; and Japan-U.S. trade friction. Current movements to stock prices, with a heavy domestic cash surplus in the background, reflect a rather speculative atmosphere. Corporations, financial organisations and other domestic investors have been at the fore, while European investors, a little perplexed, are inclined to hold off buying.

In the medium- and long-range

view, however, we forecast that stock prices in Tokyo will continue their upward trend. The reason for this is that in the first instance, there has been a rise in the need to efficiently manage funds held by banks, insurance companies, mutual benefit federations, business corporations and others. This has spotlighted a sharp increase in special trust account funds, so-called Tokkin Funds. Secondly, investment trusts are increasing their funds, suggesting a large amount of incoming funds in the market. Such new institutional investors will be the primary factor for a long-lasting favourable performance of stock prices.

From an international standpoint, the Japanese economy and Japanese enterprises have recorded high growth rates. Some Japanese enterprises are thinking beyond the stage of simple high technology development, and are expecting to advance into "super" technology. With these circumstances in mind, we think it an important task for us to keep an eye out for another Sony or another Fancu. European investor interest in buying Japanese stocks, once established, will never tail off.

Hanson: What about competition between Japanese banks and securities companies?

Yuki: As you know, the Japan-U.S. Yen-Dollar Committee Meeting held in May of last year brought about an easing of restrictions in Japan. Banks are entering the stockbrokers' field by dealing public bonds. At the same time, stockbrokers are advancing into the banking field through lending, with public bonds as security. It is presumed, however, that the two of them will never become homogeneous.

Grey Zone

However, there is a "grey zone" in the periphery of these proper fields, in which mutual invasions are being made. The important point is to make such invasions are fair. For example, banks can acquire funds at no interest or at low interest rates, and



Mr. Masao Yuki

Chairman

The Nikko Securities Co., (Europe) Ltd.

they are protected by the central bank borrowing facilities and the deposit insurance system. These privileges have been provided for the banks' proper activities. If these privileges were to be applied to peripheral activities, it would give rise to inequality. From such a point of view, restrictions on banks' underwriting activities should be maintained.

Hanson: How does Nikko view the liberalisation of the European market? Does it mean more opportunities? Or, does it mean more competition? How do you see the European market developing?

Rapid Liberalisation of European

Yuki: As is generally known, Japan has traditionally assumed a cautious attitude regarding the possession and use of the yen in the Euro-currency market. Since last year, however, Japan has been promoting the rapid liberalisation of the European market to meet domestic as well as international demands for yen internationalisation. The European market and the domestic market are mutually compensatory, while at the same time competitive. Although the European market serves as a means of improving the efficiency of the domestic market as a whole, through the stimulation of the money flows in

and outside the country, it also causes transactions to shift from the domestic market. It is necessary, therefore, to push for rapid, well-balanced liberalisation of European transactions. As far as European bonds are concerned, no less than 22 issues for an approximate amount of US dollar 2,000m have been made in the short period of four months since December 1st, last year, when bond issuing by foreign enterprises and others was liberalised. Prices of some issues have been discounted due to the intense competition to win lead underwriter's positions for issuing European bonds. Such excessive competition, although a plus for borrowers, will erode the position of underwriters.

But this situation is not expected to continue long, and the situation is now returning to normal.

Hanson: How will the development of the European market influence Tokyo-based activities? What kind of strategy are you developing for the Euromarkets?

Yuki: It is expected that national and international money flows will be stimulated as worldwide restrictions are relaxed, combined with the Euroyen market liberalisation. The stimulation of these money flows may cause a deterioration of the profitability of financial brokers, because of intensified competition. On the other hand, this will also furnish us with new opportunities. Owing to the mass issue of government bonds, diversification of corporate money raising and the rise in interest rate sensitivity in family finances, Japan is entering an era of financial change. In the Euromarket, too, a similar tendency can be seen, including, for example, the growth in note issuing facilities. With these circumstances in mind, the prospect is bright if we understand precisely the customers' needs and respond to them positively. We are making efforts to outgrow our traditional emphasis on broking mainly through the expansion and fortification of dealing, and through the strengthening of our global underwriting abilities. We are

establishing a 24-hour dealing system which will connect the three major money centres, New York, London and Tokyo. In underwriting, efforts are being made to improve the coordination of placement power and development of new markets, together with refined information services.

Hanson: How interested are you in acquiring a bank licence in London? What would you use it for?

International Money Flows

Yuki: Our company already carries out banking activities in Luxembourg and Singapore, and has also been authorised recently by the Australian Finance Ministry to establish a merchant bank in Sydney with three Japanese banks. We are strongly interested in establishing banking services in London, which is the centre of international money flows. We want to provide banking activities to satisfy the demands of our clients, such as the furnishing of bridging finances for issuers and collateral loans for securities customers. For our swap business and to collect funds necessary for bond underwriting, we would like to participate directly in the London Exchange Market and the inter-bank market.

Hanson: How do you view developments in the London market? Over the past year or so there have been significant changes in the U.K. financial community. What does it mean for foreign companies in London?

Deregulation in London

Yuki: Our greatest interest in the recent reform movement in the City is the actual deregulation of the Exchange, or, to be more exact, the liberalisation of commissions and the open-door policy for regular members. With regard to the liberalisation of commissions, our company is now also striving to promote investment in U.K. securities by Japanese investors through incentive. Moreover, liberalisation of commissions in the U.K. might affect liberalisation on the Tokyo Stock Exchange. Commissions for volume transactions were lowered recently. As a result, the commission system of the Tokyo Exchange is now at about the same level as other major markets. As for opening the door to Stock Exchange membership, about 35 new securities groups have been established in London to date, of which 14 or 15 groups include the participation of foreign capital, mainly from commercial banks. For our part, we have been paying special attention to these movements up to date. In my personal opinion, I consider that the cost for capital participation in member companies—during the peak of the London Market—has been too high. The recent capital participation "fever" seems a little too hot to me and has resulted in excessive competition among traders.

NIKKO

The Nikko Securities Co., (Europe) Ltd.

Nikko House, 17 Goddman Street, London EC4V 5BD, United Kingdom

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## OVERSEAS NEWS

David Lennon in Tel Aviv examines measures to rehabilitate the economy

## Israel avoids bitter medicine

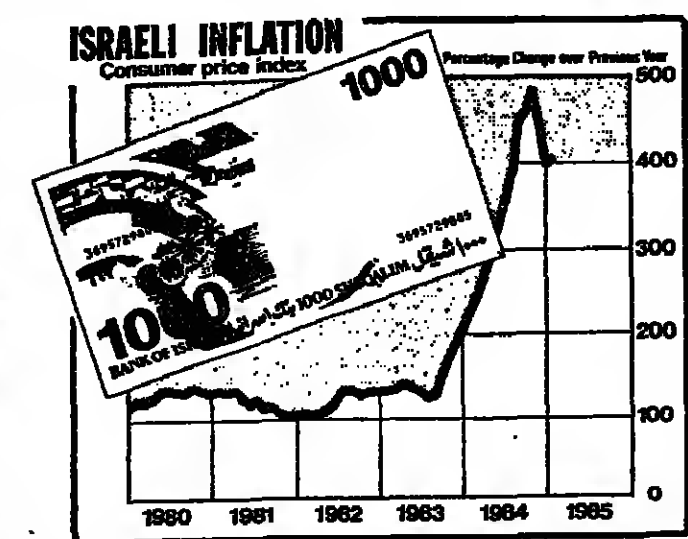
THE ISRAELI handling of the economic situation is akin to a team of doctors deciding to cure a cancer patient by pulling out one of his teeth. That is how Mr Ezer Weizman, an outspoken and colourful minister without portfolio, summed up the feelings of many experts about the latest economic measures announced by the Cabinet.

However, even an extraction can be painful, as Israelis hoping for a foreign holiday this summer have discovered. The decision to double the travel tax paid by everyone going abroad to \$300 will hurt. With other levies, the exit taxes now amount to as much as a return ticket to London.

After a marathon 12-hour meeting on Sunday devoted to seeking ways to rehabilitate the economy, the Cabinet decided to raise indirect taxes, freeze government contracts and hiring for three months and make foreign travel more expensive. The aim is to increase state revenue, cool the economy and save foreign currency.

The opinion of most Israeli economic experts, however, is that the positive impact of these measures will be marginal at best and that they will fuel inflation. They fail to tackle seriously the main problems of the economy: the almost \$5bn current account deficit in the balance of payments, the resurgence of hyper-inflation, and the continuing erosion of the foreign currency reserves.

Mr Yitzhak Moda'i, Finance Minister, admitted frankly to the Knesset (parliament) on Monday when explaining the Government's decision, that the measures adopted had been determined by political



and social, rather than economic considerations.

If the Government had been guided solely by economic wisdom, the minister said, it would have adopted one of two courses: it would have linked the shekel to the dollar or a basket of foreign currencies; or, it would have ended the linkage to the cost-of-living index of wages, capital and commercial commitments.

The Government had decided, however, that neither of these courses could be adopted for coalition and parliamentary reasons, and even more so on social grounds. Instead it had chosen the way of gradual progress, Mr Moda'i said, in his plea for understanding.

It is difficult for most Israelis to understand why the broad-based National Unity Government, which was formed eight months ago primarily to deal with the growing economic crisis, is incapable of producing

a comprehensive policy and programme, opting instead for piecemeal measures.

Mr Yigal Cohen-Orad, the previous Finance Minister, accused the Government of "taking the easy way out." He criticised the Government in which his party is one of the senior partners, for refusing to face up to the fact that changes in the economy "must be painful and the standard of living must be lowered."

He is but one of many critics within the coalition who want to see the Government implement the agreed cuts in its budget. The Government, because of this dissatisfaction, has proved singularly unsuccessful in persuading the House to approve economic legislation, despite controlling more than three quarters of the seats in parliament, and dominating the Knesset committees.

The extent of the problem was il-

lustrated on Monday when the Knesset finance committee, after months of delay, again refused to pass a law introducing high school fees and then broke up in disorder when it debated the proposal to impose property tax on car owners.

Mr Moda'i insists that the new steps are designed to complete the policy which began with the decision to cut the budget and curb inflation through a voluntary agreement with the unions and employers to control prices and wages.

The minister admits that the budget cuts of \$1.5bn are proving difficult to implement as each minister fights to protect his domain and Mr Shimon Peres, the Prime Minister, insists that unemployment will not be used as an economic tool.

The Government's attempt to curb inflation and stabilise the economy through the agreement with the unions and employers did work for a few months after being introduced in November. But it suffered a severe blow as inflation in April rose by nearly 20 per cent. The latest measures will exacerbate this trend.

The next landmark in the continuing saga of Israel's economic tightrope-walking act will be the announcement from Washington that the \$150m-\$800m in emergency aid is on its way.

It will provide vital relief for the hard-pressed foreign currency reserves, which are likely to drop below the \$2bn mark this month.

But unless the Government takes the bitter medicine needed to rehabilitate the economy, this will only temporarily halt the seemingly relentless slide towards insolvency.

## Tokyo hints it may stimulate economy

By Jurak Martin in Tokyo

A SENIOR Japanese Government official again hinted yesterday at possible stimulation of the domestic economy if the slowdown in the U.S. worsened.

Reacting to Tuesday night's news that the U.S. gross national product in the first quarter of this year had risen at a real annual rate of only 0.7 per cent, Mr Noburo Takeshita, Finance Minister, told a parliamentary committee that if the hoped-for "soft landing" turned into a recession, Japan might be forced to act.

Mr Takeshita did not go into detail on the Japanese economic policy options while addressing the parliamentary committee, beyond recommending relatively uncontroversial ways of expanding demand through deregulation and public works development on state-owned land.

However, Mr Toyoo Gyohten, an influential Finance Ministry official, said in an interview that there was virtually no chance of the ministry abandoning its zero growth approach to spending either this year or next. This would place the onus for any stimulus squarely on the tax policy side.

## 'India will need to quadruple bank borrowing'

BY JOHN ELLIOTT IN NEW DELHI

INDIA'S commercial foreign borrowings now running at \$12bn a year may have to jump to an unexpectedly high figure of \$52bn a year by 1990 if the country is to meet its 5 per cent economic growth targets and absorb urgently needed imports.

This forecast is made by the World Bank in its annual report on India. The report also warns that the growth target may not be achieved unless the Government initiates "further vigorous thrusts" on proposed industrial and trade policy reforms to boost exports and improve industrial efficiency.

The World Bank controversially pleads India's case for more concessional aid, which has been hit partly by cuts in the World Bank's International Development Association soft loan arm and partly by China qualifying for such aid. It says India's needs are "undiminished" and that instead of declining concessional aid should grow by 5 to 10 per cent a year.

"Failure to take any measures to reduce India's prospective debt burden might well imply the loss of an opportunity to assist India in transferring to a path of accelerated, more efficient and more equitable development," says the report.

The warning is directed at major industrialised countries, including the U.S. The countries

## 60 killed in East Beirut car bomb

By Richard Johns in Beirut

A MASSIVE car bomb was detonated in Christian east Beirut yesterday killing at least 60 people and injuring more than 120. Among the dead were 15 school children who were in a bus near the site of the blast.

The bomb devastated buildings over a wide area and several motorists were killed as they drove through the rubble and the death toll was expected to rise.

It was the worst car bomb ever to hit East Beirut, and the first since a suicide attack on a U.S. Embassy in the north of the city last September killing about 12 people.

Panic ensued after yesterday's blast when several artillery shells or long-range rockets exploded nearby, claiming responsibility for the attack which came as the mainly Muslim western half of the capital also lurched further into bloodshed.

The fighting around the Palestinian camps in the south east of the Lebanese capital took a new twist with the Shiite militia Amal taking direct confrontation with Syria.

Amal has for the past several days been fighting to wrest control of the camps from Palestinian forces apparently loyal to Mr Ezzat al-Khatib, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation. As Syria is deeply opposed to Mr Arafat's leadership of the PLO, it had been assumed that it had tacitly approved the Amal action.

However, yesterday Shiite attempts to advance were thwarted when four Soviet-made Grad missiles landed at the entrance to a Shiite camp. The missiles were apparently fired by forces of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine which is allied to Syria.

Damascus thus appears to have given notice that Amal has gone too far in its attack on the Palestinians. This view was given additional weight by the fact that pre-Syrian Palestinians have also been fighting within the camps to halt the Amal advance.

Amal casualties are believed to have been higher than the 60 dead admitted yesterday. Hospital doctors said they had received at least 100 Amal dead.

## Israel, PLO 'in talks over release of more prisoners'

BY OUR MIDDLE EAST STAFF

A SENIOR official of the Palestine Liberation Organisation indicated yesterday that negotiations are taking place with Israel over the release of more Palestinian prisoners.

Mr Khalil al-Wazir, the principal military aide to Mr Yasser Arafat, the PLO chairman, said in Amman that it was premature to give any details "while some steps have still to be taken."

His comment followed a report in a Jordanian newspaper that talks were taking place over the release of 1,012 Palestinians in Israeli jails in return for a number of bodies of Israeli soldiers held by Fatah, the main guerrilla group headed by Mr Arafat.

On Monday, Israel freed 1,150 prisoners in return for the release of its soldiers captured by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command during the invasion of Lebanon in 1982.

The exchange has caused bitterness among Israelis, particularly because some of the released prisoners who had been convicted of serious terrorist offences were allowed to return to their homes on the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The PFLP-GC warned in a statement from Damascus yesterday that it would retaliate if the Israeli authorities attempted to take any further action against the released prisoners.

## Zaire seeks debt rescheduling

BY PETER BLACKBURN IN ABIDJAN

ZAIRE is due to seek another rescheduling of its official debt, the seventh in the past 10 years, at a meeting in Paris on May 23-24. It is likely to be followed by a meeting with the London Club of commercial creditors.

Debt service to both official and commercial creditors is estimated at \$900m (£707m) in 1985 against projected export earnings of \$1.7bn and a budget of \$900m.

Zaire is reported to be seeking to reschedule some two-thirds of debt payable this year and signs that last year's remarkable economic improvement is now faltering.

The meetings follow the recent approval of a new one-year \$1.2bn (£120m) IMF standby arrangement which supports the Government's austerity programme aimed at bringing the country's finances back into balance.

It aims further to reduce the external current account deficit, restrict public sector credit and

bring inflation below 20 per cent.

However, Mr Kaderaka Kasai, Zaire's Secretary of State for Planning, recently told an aid donors meeting in Kinshasa that economic indicators for the first quarter 1985 were "disturbing."

Output is down, inflation up to around 30 per cent from less than 20 per cent and the depreciation of the Zaire against the dollar and other major currencies has accelerated, he said. As a result the economic gains in 1984, notably the virtual disappearance of the black market and a sharp drop in the over 100 per cent inflation rate, have been eroded.

The Government recently borrowed \$25m from local banks causing an acute shortage of foreign exchange for imports. Businessmen also complain that severe IMF credit restrictions have depressed activity.

Criticism of the IMF-inspired

austerity programme was significantly publicised after a recent meeting of the central committee of the ruling party. Members complained that the IMF was interfering with national sovereignty as well as targets in health, education and social services.

The shuffling was reportedly triggered off by an over-zealous Finance Minister, Mr Tshishimbi Wa Bilemba, freshly arrived from the IMF in Washington, who insisted that certain unexplained expenditures be accounted for. The Minister was subsequently shifted and new heads the Public Debt Office.

## Eanes discusses Macao's future with Peking

By Robert Thomson in Peking

THE FUTURE of Macao, the small territory of southern China under Portuguese administration, was discussed in a meeting between Zhao Ziyang, the Chinese Premier, and St Antonio Ramalho Eanes, the visiting Portuguese President.

During the two-hour meeting at the Great Hall of the People, Premier Zhao and the Portuguese President, who is the first head of state from Portugal to visit China, "exchanged views on the Macao question in a friendly and understanding atmosphere," according to a Chinese Foreign Ministry official.

The official would give no details of what views were exchanged, but the fact that both countries are prepared to admit that discussion on the Macao issue took place is significant.

There has been speculation that President Eanes's visit could herald the start of an effort to settle the question of Macao now that the future of Hong Kong has been solved. Macao was first settled by the Portuguese in the 16th century as a base for trade with China. Now Lisbon regards Macao as a Chinese territory under Portuguese administration.

## Zimbabwe to end freeze on dividends remittance

BY OUR HARARE CORRESPONDENT

ZIMBABWE'S Minister of Finance, Dr Bernard Chidzero, has attempted to restore investor confidence by lifting a freeze on the remittance of dividends.

He said at a press conference on Tuesday that a review of the balance of payments situation and its medium-term outlook had made it possible to lift the suspensions, imposed in March last year. Companies would also be granted an across-the-board foreign currency allocation for imports of 30 per cent.

The freeze on dividends, branch profits and partnership profits was effected to prepare for what the Government believed then would be a massive food import bill, brought about by the third year of drought.

As it turned out, the Government imported 225,000 tonnes, less than a quarter of what it had originally thought would be necessary. Repayments of the frozen dividends are only likely to be released at the end of next year, however.

Dr Chidzero said that those suspended since March last year and those declared during the rest of this year would be released through a system of 4 per cent bonds, paid out annually for the next six years. From the beginning of next year,

however, the original Government policy of dividend remittance would be reinstated, which is at a maximum of 50 per cent of after-tax profits.

Banking sources estimate that the total sum of frozen dividends now amounts to £70m (\$88.5m). The figure may not go much higher for the rest of the year, said one banker, "because of an understandable reluctance now to declare a dividend."

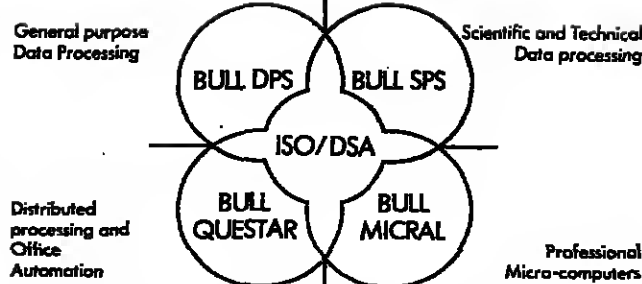
The Government was still reviewing the suspension on the remittance of other incomes, Dr Chidzero said, and the current restrictions would remain in force.

Dr Chidzero said the measures would "enable the current economic recovery to be sustained over the medium term." He also hoped that the restoration of dividend remittances would "encourage a significantly higher level of foreign investment."

Mr Robert Mugabe, Prime Minister, last month put the balance of payments deficit on current account for last year at \$21m after 1983's disastrous \$268m. The latest Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe review estimates that 1985 will even show a small surplus.



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## Germany's schooling 'far more effective'

BRITAIN had little chance of matching Germany's economic performance as long as the comprehensive secondary schools were controlled by different local authorities, said an article in the National Institute Economic Review.

It claimed that Germany, which largely retained selective schooling, catered far more effectively for children whose intelligences ran in other than academic directions.

The plans of Sir Keith Joseph, Education Secretary, to improve the education of less scholarly pupils in the UK were hampered because the decentralised control of schools made it hard to achieve the necessary co-ordination.

The report said that the link between Germany's schools and its economic success lay in the effective way it educated children with lower academic aptitudes. They left school with much better developed abilities than their English counterparts, particularly in mathematics, which provided a foundation for training in working skills.

The main educational reason for Germany's economic lead over the UK was not differences in graduate populations, but in Germany's far greater number of vocationally-trained people.

Institute forecasts, Page 10

THE GOVERNMENT is to spend £94m to convert the Kilroot power station, near Belfast, from oil to coal, to cut the high cost of electricity in Northern Ireland.

The four-year project is expected to pay for itself within three years and will make a big contribution in cutting the subsidies, approaching £100m a year, which are given to Northern Ireland electricity consumers.

The conversion should provide valuable cover for the British coal industry, which will be able to increase its supplies of power station coal to the province from 4m tonnes a year to 1.3m.

KCA DRILLING, an independent UK oil drilling and engineering company, has joined forces with Sweden's Venture AB in a £34m deal to acquire and operate the jack-up drilling rig STC Platon.

KCA will own 60 per cent of the new company and STC Venture 40 per cent. The rig, built in 1982, will be renamed after its handover in August from its present contract in the Dutch sector of the North Sea.

ORDERS by the leading UK process plant contractors were up by 32 per cent last year, to £264m. Turnover, however, fell by 47 per cent to £181m. This was caused partly by poor orders in 1981-82 and by a change in contracts from lump-sum payment to a fee basis, says the British Chemical Engineering Contractors Association.

MR RAJIV GANDHI, the Indian Prime Minister, has accepted in principle an invitation to visit Britain this year, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, announced.

AN IMPROVED pay offer expected from teachers' employers today is unlikely to be worth more than 5 per cent and is almost certain to be rejected by the unions.

Earlier hopes that a substantially higher offer would be tabled, possibly on a phased basis, have been undercut by warnings from most county councils that they have only budgeted between 4.5 and 5 per cent and cannot afford more.

THE GOVERNMENT is to publish a long-sought White Paper policy document today on conservation and the countryside, designed in part to answer criticisms of its Wildlife and Countryside Act and of the alleged environmental damage provoked by agricultural policy.

Its publication will also be greeted with great interest by farmers, who have been seeking a broad government statement on countryside policy with increasing frustration over the last few months.

France has already said it will not participate in star wars.

According to industry observers, Britain could play a part in the SDI project in three key technical areas, in each of which the country has some of the world's top scientists and engineers.

Software technology: Companies such as Software Sciences (part of Thorn EMI), CAP, Logica, Systems Designers and Scicon (a BP subsidiary) are strong in the area of software-related to complex military systems. Huge volumes of instruction would be needed in star wars computers that would, for instance, keep track of enemy missiles, intercept information from sensors such as radars and relay messages extremely quickly to weapons such as laser guns or conventional missiles.

Battle management: Similar companies, with Britain's electronics heavyweights such as Plessey, Marconi and Racal, have produced computer-based hardware for Nato and the UK Defence Ministry that assesses the state of battles from a mass of information. Such systems would be required to evaluate the threat from Soviet missiles and decoys and to simulate attacks to test the response of shielding measures.

Conventional missiles: American defence planners believe that, at least in the early generations of an operational missile-defence system, weapons to destroy incoming projectiles would be based on conventional missiles powered by rocket motors, rather than laser and particle-beam guns that fire at the speed of light. British Aerospace, Marconi and Hunting Engineering may have something to offer the U.S. in these areas of technology.

Views in industry are divided as to whether the U.S. would be prepared to place contracts directly with UK companies or whether British industry would have to work within U.S. consortia. Dr David Stanley, technical director of Logica, said that direct contracts could not be ruled out, in spite of U.S. fears that such mechanisms could act as conduits for the leakage of sensitive technologies to the Soviet Union.

Britain is also discussing with other West European nations a rival scheme proposed by France, called Eureka, that would promote the development of new technologies for non-military projects.

## Further radical change promised by Thatcher

BY PETER RIDDELL, POLITICAL EDITOR

MRS MARGARET THATCHER, Prime Minister, yesterday presented the Conservatives as the "constructive party" committed to further proposals for radical change.

She gave a London conference of women party members a list of government social, economic and industrial initiatives which, she said, represented "the most concentrated collection of constructive long-term policies that I have known in my 25 years in parliament. And there's more to come. And we're still only at mid-term."

Earlier in the conference, in reply to a debate on the presentation of

Government policy, Lord Whitelaw, the leader of the House of Lords, implicitly attacked the new group of Tory MPs. Conservative Centre Forward, led by his former close colleague, Mr Francis Pym.

Without mentioning Mr Pym by name, Lord Whitelaw said that "some divisions and cracks will upset the best presentation just at the moment when it is succeeding."

"No one has a monopoly of caring about unemployment. I get very angry when I hear some people differentiate themselves from others - particularly in my own party - saying they care and others don't."

Lord Whitelaw warned that the Tories would never win the next general election unless we are prepared wholeheartedly, and of us, to stand up for Mrs Thatcher, our leader, and give her the support that she so fundamentally deserves.

The party's problems are underlined by an opinion poll in today's Guardian newspaper, which puts it, at 29 per cent, behind Labour and the Alliance which are level pegging at 35 per cent. This represents a seven point gain for the Alliance over the past month with Labour slipping back by three points and the Tories by four.

## Risk claimed to drug research

BY TONY JACKSON

GOVERNMENT insistence on cheap drugs could cost Britain its lead in pharmaceuticals research, according to a new report. It claims that countries such as Australia and Canada, which have pursued a cheap drug policy in the past, are now paying the price in the form of a widening trade deficit in pharmaceuticals.

The report comes from the Office of Health Economics (OHE) in co-operation with the Medizinische Pharmazeutische Studiengesellschaft of West Germany. The OHE is financed by the ABPI, the UK drug industry association.

Despite its industry links, the report contains some conclusions which are at variance with the industry's stance. In particular, its authors said yesterday that the con-

troversial limited list of prescribable drugs under the National Health Service, introduced last month by the UK Government, was unlikely to have a significant effect on the industry as a whole.

In West Germany and the Netherlands, said Professor George Teeling Smith, similar limitations on minor remedies had been imposed. Both countries had since experienced the phenomenon of "diagnostic drift," whereby doctors - instead of prescribing cheap alternatives for minor ailments - tended to prescribe more sophisticated and expensive drugs still available on prescription.

The report claims that there is no necessary relationship between drug prices and overall costs. In particular, France is pointed to as having strict controls on drug

prices, but a per capita consumption of drugs twice as high as the British.

The report emphasises that whereas limitations in drug profits so far imposed in Britain are unlikely to harm the industry significantly, further such limitations could be dangerous.

The argues that in Canada government policy has been "disastrously myopic." A combination of weak patent protection and a cheap drug policy had meant that Canada now carried out no significant pharmaceutical research. Its negative trade balance on drugs had widened from \$122m to \$213m in the four years to 1979.

Pharmaceuticals in seven Nations. Office of Health Economics, 13 Whitehall, London SW1A 2SY. £2.50.

## MacGregor rejects amnesty for miners

BY MAURICE SAMUELSON AND JOHN LLOYD

MR IAN MacGregor, chairman of the National Coal Board, has flatly rejected an appeal for a general amnesty for miners sacked during the year-long strike which ended in March.

He said the message from the industry's own workforce was that "leniency would be regarded as a disaster."

Some 670 miners' remains dismissed from a total of nearly 1,000. Appearing yesterday before the House of Commons select committee on employment, Mr MacGregor had been asked by Mr Greville Janner, (Labour): "When are you going to bind up the wounds? The war is over."

Mr Janner accused the coal board chairman of "knowing practically nothing about industrial relations."

Mr MacGregor appeared most ill at ease when forced to acknowledge that he had never been inside an industrial tribunal inside the UK, although he said he had attended such hearings in other countries.

At one stage, Mr Ron Leighton, the committee chairman, said: "If the (NCB) chairman could relax it would be better." Mr MacGregor replied: "I'm perfectly relaxed."

### More UK news Page 10

Mr MacGregor seemed particularly stirred by persistent and close questioning from Mr Gordon Brown (Labour), who divided his questions between the board chairman and Mr Albert Wheeler, formerly Scottish area director and now Nottinghamshire area director.

Mr Wheeler told Mr Brown that more than 90 per cent of the 200-plus miners sacked in Scotland - none of whom has been reinstated - had been sacked for intimidation, serious violence or vandalism.

However, none had a prison sentence, only one was known to have had a jury trial and - according to



Mr Ian MacGregor

Mr Brown - 80 per cent have had fines imposed of less than £100. Some had been found innocent by the courts.

Both Mr Wheeler and Mr MacGregor insisted that only board officials could judge what was a serious and thus a sacking offence. "Who else's decision would it be, Mr Brown?" asked Mr MacGregor. The board chairman said that this procedure was in line with practice elsewhere in industry.

Some 450 of the miners sacked have taken their case to industrial tribunals, according to the board. This, said Mr MacGregor, was the proper machinery for appeal. Only nine cases have so far been heard.

He frequently interjected into questions directed at his colleagues and continually insisted that the circumstances of the year-long strike were unique in being more lawless and more violent than anything which had been seen before in the UK. They thus, he said, called for a different response.

Mr Arthur Scargill, NUM president, said that in Scotland, the north-east of England and Kent, the board had pressed a much tougher policy on dismissals than in other regions. He said: "This cannot be divorced from the fact that they (the board) wish to close large sections of the industry in these areas."

David Churchill on the plans behind a £492m takeover bid

## What's in store for Debenhams

TWO OF BRITAIN'S brightest retailing entrepreneurs - Sir Terence Conran of Habitat/Mothercare and Mr Ralph Halpern of the men's clothing chain Burtons - yesterday joined forces to mount the long-awaited takeover bid for Debenhams department stores.

The move, which had been one of the worst-kept secrets in the City of London for some weeks, brings to an end almost 13 years of continual takeover speculation surrounding Debenhams since the UDS group failed in its takeover bid in 1972.

The two retail chiefs plan to inject into Debenhams some of the design and marketing flair that has made their respective companies so successful in the 1980s. They aim to adapt the marketing formula initially developed in Milan with the Galleria department stores - since copied in the U.S. - and introduce it into Debenhams' 67 UK stores.

The Galleria concept, according to Mr Halpern, is for an "integrated collection of highly focused special-

Over the past few years, Debenhams has embarked on a management restructuring to make staff more accountable for sales and has made considerable strides in improving the store with the aid of design consultants. It has introduced well-known retailers into the store - such as Harris Queensway - either as concessions or as joint companies.

Earlier this month Debenhams announced trading figures - profits

anxious to continue with their own retailing formula, turned down the merger. But the fact that the talks had taken place forced other retailers, especially Burton, to consider mounting a takeover bid.

About a month ago, Sir Terence started talks with Mr Halpern about joining in any takeover bid. The Conran reputation was all that was needed for Burton to press ahead with its bid plans and about two weeks ago it acquired a stake of 1m shares (at a purchase price of 280p each) in Debenhams.

Habitat/Mothercare's actual degree of involvement was not settled until an agreement was signed early yesterday morning. Habitat/Mothercare is committed to taking at least 20 per cent of Debenhams' 4.5m square feet of selling space if the deal goes through. It has an option to buy by the end of next year some 20 per cent of the equity in Debenhams at a price equivalent to Burton's purchase costs.

### habitat/mothercare

up by 24 per cent to £41m on sales of £723m - to justify some of Mr Thornton's belief that he is succeeding in making the most of the stores.

What is missing from the Debenhams revival formula is the design flair and motivational skills which Sir Terence and his senior colleagues can bring. Over the past three years he has acquired the children's chain Mothercare, the London furniture store Heal's and the fashion chain Richards Shops - three retailers with problems - and turned them into flourishing stores without having to inject large capital or bring in new retail managers.

Sir Terence recognised what he could do for Debenhams at the beginning of this year and held secret talks with Mr Thornton and his colleagues about a possible merger, since Habitat/Mothercare did not have the finance for a full-scale takeover bid. "We discussed in some detail the kind of Galleria concept that I felt would be suitable for Debenhams stores," Sir Terence revealed yesterday.

The Debenhams board, perhaps

DEBENHAMS

The man on whom falls most of the pressure to make a success of Debenhams is Mr Halpern. He has been with the Burton Group for over 20 years, becoming chairman in 1981. He was largely responsible for the turnaround in Burton's fortunes in the late 70s and 80s - transforming an old-fashioned menswear chain into an aggressive retailer of casual clothes for the affluent young.

In the early 1980s Mr Halpern had similarly revamped the Dorothy Perkins, Top Shop and Evans womenswear chains.

The Air Travel Reserve Fund and its administering agency were set up after the failure of the Court Line travel company in 1974.

Lex, Page 28

## Tourists to have more air travel protection

By Michael Donne

BRITAIN'S 8m package holiday-makers travelling by air every year are to have additional protection against losses arising from the failure of tour operators.

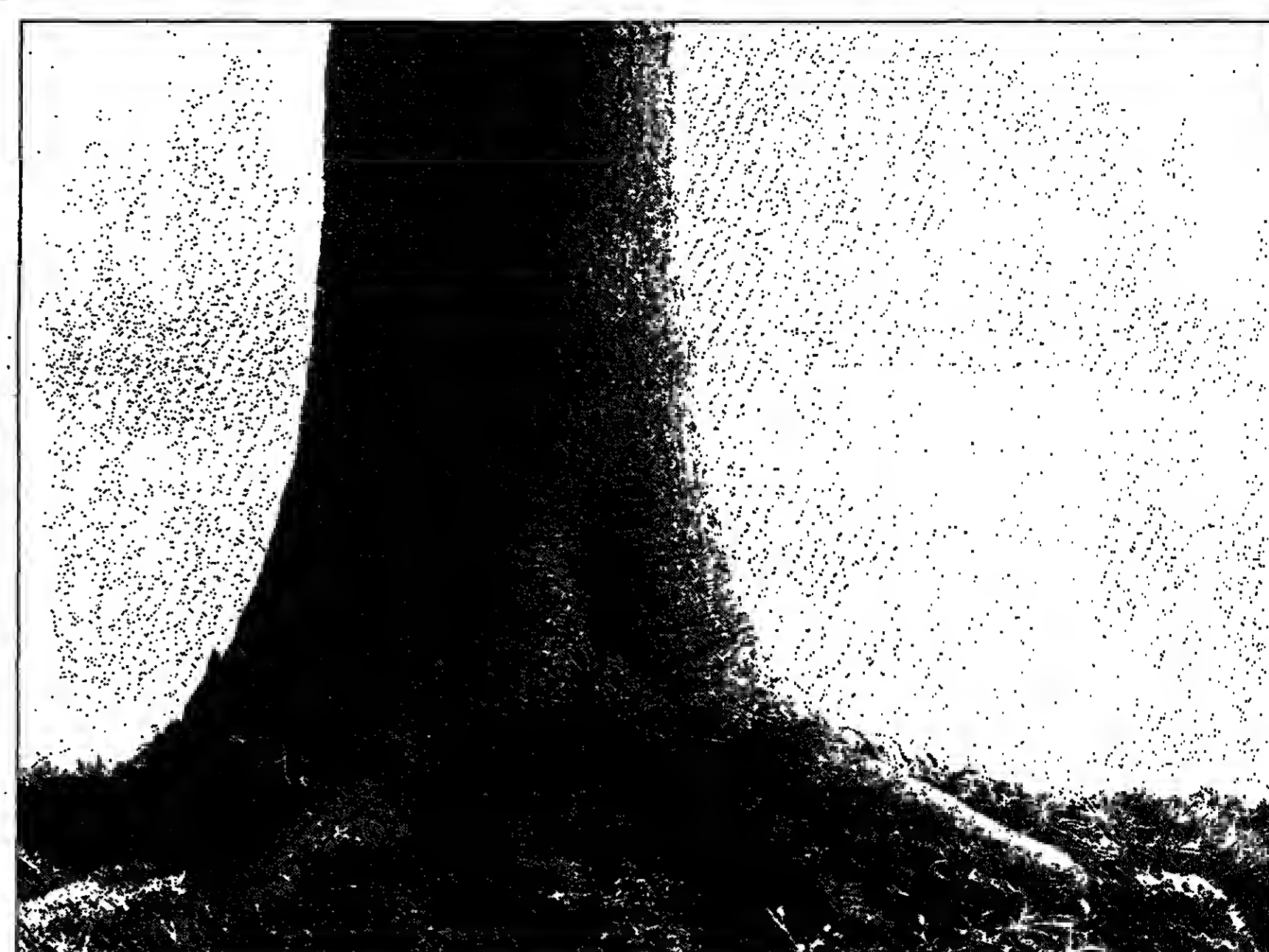
Under government arrangements announced yesterday, the Air Travel Reserve Fund Agency - which in the past has administered compensation to holidaymakers - will be wound up and its functions transferred to the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).

The CAA will in future be responsible for collecting the cash for the fund through the existing levies on holidaymakers and tour operators. It will pay compensation whenever a tour company or operator goes out of business.

The CAA is already responsible for licensing tour operators and aircraft and allocating the numbers of seats that can be sold annually for package holidays. It is therefore thought that it is in a better position to monitor the overall situation.

The second main innovation will be a top-up insurance scheme that will generate extra cash for use in the event of a large tour operator's failure. There will be no extra cost to the travel industry since the additional premiums involved will be provided from the existing income of the fund.

The Air Travel Reserve Fund and its administering agency were set up after the failure of the Court Line travel company in 1974.



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**EDITED BY CHRISTOPHER LORENZ**



## Advertisers now prefer selected audiences. Fiona McEwan reports

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It found that in one peaktime slot (which BARR showed had an 18 per cent rating among

medium. It must increasingly look at minority audiences and the reach across the media, both at an audience's viewing and reading."

**BY CARLA RAPOPORT**

The book, unfortunately, does not amount to a magic wand which will instantly erase a company's problems in an-

No prizes for guessing Mitt's response to this problem: Japan will not change. But in true

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The GLC is holding a conference on Tuesday 4 June to launch the London Industrial Strategy. You are invited to participate, to hear about the work so far, to discuss its relevance to your workplace and community and to make use of the Strategy in the fight for jobs.

Speakers will include Neil Kinnock MP, Brenda Dean, John Prescott MP, Tony Benn MP, Ken Livingstone and Michael Ward.

Tuesday 4 June 1985

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## UK NEWS

### City tower by Mies rejected as 'obtrusive'

By Joan Grey, Construction Correspondent

THE GOVERNMENT has rejected a controversial proposal to build an 18-storey office block next to the Mansion House in the City of London, but it has left the way open for demolition and redevelopment on the site.

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, has refused property developer Mr Peter Palumbo planning permission to demolish the listed Victorian buildings and build the last glass tower designed by the leading modernist architect Mies van der Rohe, who died in 1980.

The proposal has been the subject of a lengthy planning inquiry and bitter debate between conservationists anxious to stop any more demolition to build offices in the City and developers pressing for more office space. Far from settling the issue, however, yesterday's decision will fuel the argument further, Mr Palumbo is determined to keep fighting.

"Mr Jenkin's verdict just creates confusion after 27 years of inconclusive debate over the site," said Mr Palumbo. "The country needs jobs, and the City of London requires a proper business environment to resist competition from financial centres such as New York and Tokyo. It cannot compete in the 21st century out of 19th century premises."

Although Mr Jenkin rejected the proposal on the grounds that the Mies tower would be "obtrusive" and "eliminate the strong sense of the central focus served by its radiating roads signalling the very heart of the City," he emphasised that he did "not rule out redevelopment of this site if there were acceptable proposals for replacing the existing buildings."

In a paragraph diverging from the opinions of his planning inspector, Mr Jenkin supports the developers view on the need for modern offices in the City. "For the City to continue to function efficiently as a world financial centre it needs to adapt to the requirements of the modern commercial world... it would be wrong to attempt to freeze the character of the City of London for all time," he says.

Mr Palumbo declined to say yet what his next move will be.

## NATIONAL INSTITUTE FORECASTS OVERRUN IN PUBLIC BORROWING

### Small scope seen for tax cuts

BY MAX WILKINSON, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE GOVERNMENT is likely to have little scope for tax cuts in the next budget and faces a further overrun in public borrowing this year, the National Institute of Economic and Social Research says in its latest economic review published yesterday.

It says that the £34bn which the Treasury has pencilled in for tax cuts in 1986-87 will be swallowed up by increased borrowing demands.

The Government has assumed a public sector borrowing requirement of £74bn for that year, but the institute says borrowing would be more likely to be £104bn to £114bn if the Government went ahead with the tax cuts.

The institute is also pessimistic about the trend of public borrowing this year, which it says is likely to be £14bn to £24bn over the £7bn target.

The institute comments that in the current year the difference between its forecast and the Treasury's is within the very substantial margin of error for such forecasts. Nevertheless, the institute does seem to cast worrying doubts about the Government's ability to hit its borrowing targets.

It comments that if an overhang in public borrowing resulted from a fall in government oil revenues, the effect on domestic money supply would not be particularly expansionary.

The main reasons for the institute's pessimism for the next financial year are that it expects the rate of economic growth to fall sharply in 1986, with unemployment continuing to rise.

Lower growth and a much smaller increase in company profits would reduce the Government's tax revenues, while higher unemployment - projected to reach 3.6m adults by the end of next year - would increase the cost of social security benefits.

The institute expects some weakening of the oil price as a result of a projected fall in the exchange rate of the dollar. But it does not think sterling will benefit as much as the D-Mark and the Japanese yen.

One consequence of this is that oil prices in sterling terms are expected to fall, thus reducing the Government's revenues from the North Sea.

For this year, the institute predicts an economic growth of 3.2 per cent compared with real output in 1984. Of this about one percentage

FORECASTS FOR THE UK ECONOMY, JUNE 1985			
(Annual percentage change in 1980 prices unless otherwise stated)			
	1984	1985	1986
Gross Domestic Product (output)	2.5 (2.1)	3.2 (2.9)	1.2 (0.9)
Real personal disposable income	2.2 (1.8)	2.3 (2.7)	2.3 (0.9)
Inflation (consumer prices)	4.8 (4.9)	5.3 (5.5)	5.0 (5.5)
Consumer spending	1.5 (2.1)	1.8 (2.6)	2.3 (0.9)
Exports	6.8 (7.7)	8.7 (5.4)	2.5 (4.6)
Imports	8.7 (8.9)	6.8 (4.5)	2.3 (3.0)
Fixed investment	7.7 (5.9)	1.8 (0.1)	0.8 (-1.0)
Unemployment (adults, million)	3.1 (3.1)	3.2 (3.2)	3.3 (3.4)
PSBR fiscal year £bn	10.1 (8.0)	8.7 (8.6)	10.6 (8.2)
Current account balance of payments (£bn)	0.1 (0.2)	1.8 (0.7)	1.5 (1.4)
Starting index (1975=100)	78.8 (78.6)	75.0 (69.5)	75.0 (69.2)

WORLD ECONOMIES - OUTPUT GROWTH			
(Percentage rise in volume, annual rate)			
	U.S.	Canada	Japan
1984	6.8	4.7	5.8
1985 (forecast)	3.3	2.5	5.0
1986 (forecast)	2.5	1.8	4.3

point represents the recovery of coal production after the end of the miners' strike.

In 1986, output is projected to be 1.2 per cent higher than this year's level but the institute says: "These annual figures mask the extent of the slowdown; through next year, output rises only fractionally."

The main reason for the slowing of economic growth in 1986 is the expectation that exports and investment will slow down substantially. A rebuilding of stocks is expected to provide a significant boost to the economy this year but this will go into reverse in the latter part of 1986 as stocks are rebuilt at a slower rate.

Exports are expected to decline in response to a general slowing in the pace of world trade. Investment, the institute says, is likely to grow less fast as the economy slows down. But the measures of the 1984 budget, which phased down investment allowances, are also likely to contribute to a slowing down in this period.

Consumer spending, underpinned by a steady growth of average earnings, is expected to provide the main impulse for growth in the latter part of next year. The institute believes that average wage settlements in the round ending this summer will be about 6 1/2 per cent, with average earnings rising at about 7 1/2 per cent, similar to the rise in the two previous wage rounds. It says that it expects this trend broadly to continue.

The recent appreciation of sterling on the foreign exchanges has led the institute to assume a higher exchange rate for this year and next than it thought likely in its last forecast in February.

As a result, it now takes a considerably more optimistic view of inflation. It thinks the annual rise in the consumer price index (slightly different from the retail price index) will have fallen back to 5 1/2 per cent by the end of this year and to 4 1/2 per cent by the fourth quarter of 1986.

The recent rapid rise in the inflation rate to about 7 per cent reflects the 12 per cent increase in import prices during 1984 and a further 4 per cent in the first quarter of 1985. Most of this, the institute says, seems to have been due to the fall in sterling, whose value against a trade-weighted index of other currencies fell 16 per cent during the five quarters. The institute believes this acceleration in the inflation rate is unlikely to go much further.

Later this year, the effects of the recent rise in sterling will begin to feed through into retail prices, it says, counteracting the tail end of the price increases which followed from its earlier depreciation.

The institute says that living standards, at least for those in work, are set to improve steadily up to the end of next year.

It says that public sector pay settlements just kept pace with inflation on average since 1981-82, but had fallen 7 per cent behind the av-

erage pay rises for the whole economy.

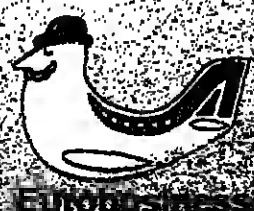
The worst-off groups in the public sector were the health service ancillary workers and the local authority manual workers. Civil servants' pay fell 4 per cent in real terms during the period. The police did best with a 16 per cent real pay increase over the four years. The armed forces received a real rise of 6 per cent and teachers a real rise of 1 per cent. The institute expects the Western European economy to continue slow expansion at about 2 to 2 1/2 per cent a year for the next two years, while the pace of growth in the U.S. and Japan will slow.

Wage inflation, it says, remains moderate in the developed countries, with the average rate of increase of consumer prices at 4 1/2 per cent this year compared with 5 1/2 per cent in 1984. But as the inflation rate picks up in the U.S. to about 5 per cent in 1986, world inflation will also move up to just under 5 per cent.

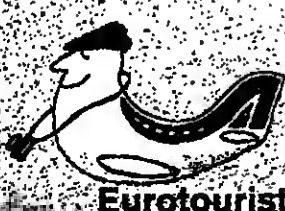
The growth of world trade is expected to slow from 8 per cent last year to about 5 per cent in 1985 and 4 1/2 per cent in 1986. This slow down will be heavily concentrated on the U.S., the institute says.

Economic Review No. 112, May 1985, from National Institute of Economic and Social Research, 2 Dean Trench Street, Smith Square, London SW1P 3JZ. (Annual subscription £40 (abroad). Single issues £12 (abroad).

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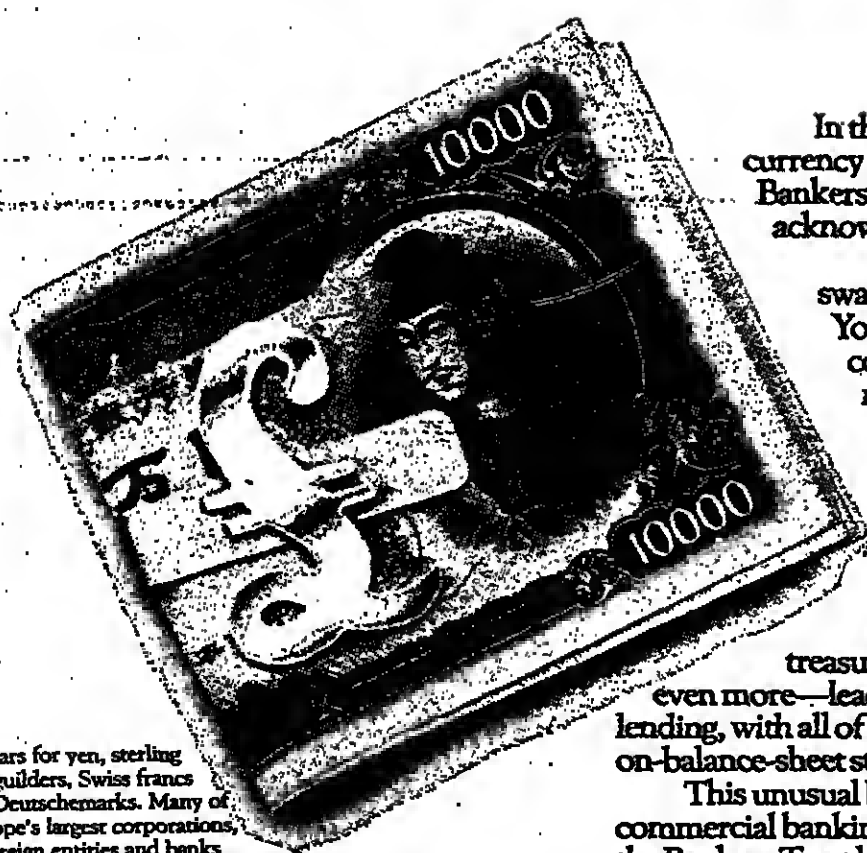
The contributors will include: Viscount Egonne Davidson, Mr Kassar V. Cassani, IBM World Trade Europe/Middle East/Africa Corporation; Mr G. T. Information Systems; Dr Henry Ergas, GEC.

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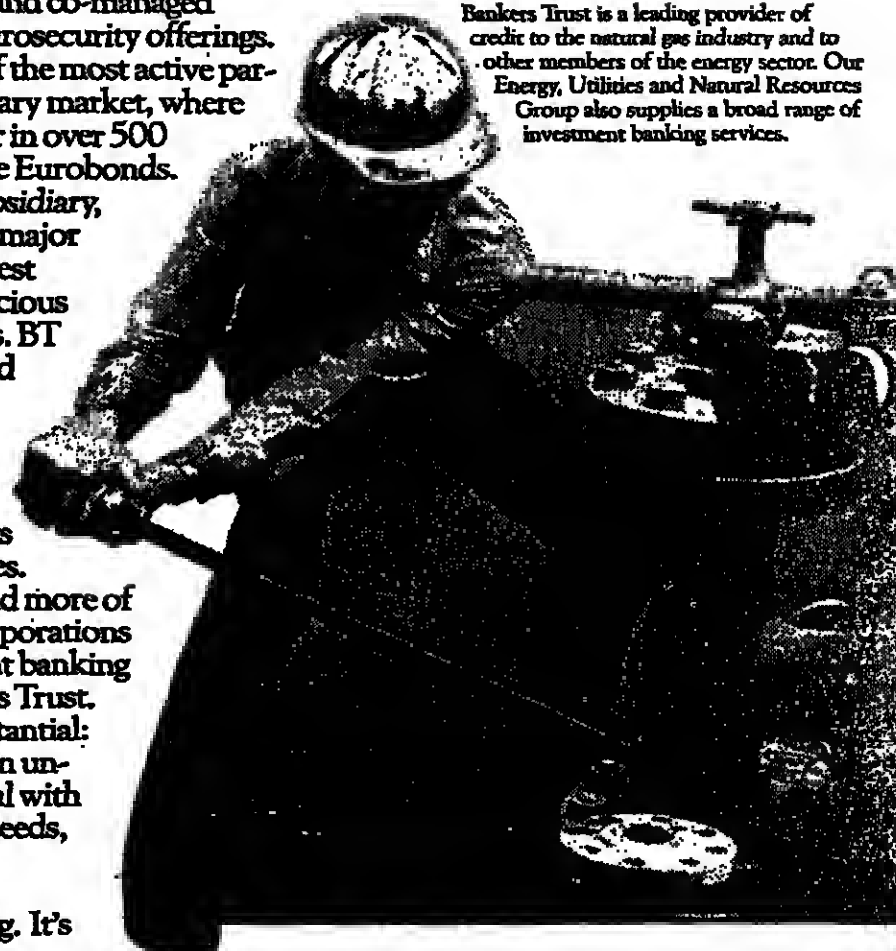
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## TECHNOLOGY

EDITED BY ALAN CANE

## Japan sets pace in automating intelligence

Alan Cane reports on Tokyo's Fifth Generation computer programme

JAPANESE plans to develop intelligent "Fifth Generation" computers are showing the first tangible signs of success—and they have seven years in hand.

The Japanese programme calls for a prototype fifth generation computer by 1992. Last year, however, they announced a personal "inference engine," a workstation capable of making 30,000 logical inferences per second (LIPS).

In Tokyo last week, Nippon Electric and the Japanese Fifth Generation Centre, ICOT, showed a complementary machine, a computer capable of making 200,000 LIPS.

Logical inferences are the building blocks of artificial intelligence; what the Japanese are trying to do is to create a system which can handle inference as the basic unit of operation, as distinct from the basic arithmetic operation of conventional computers.

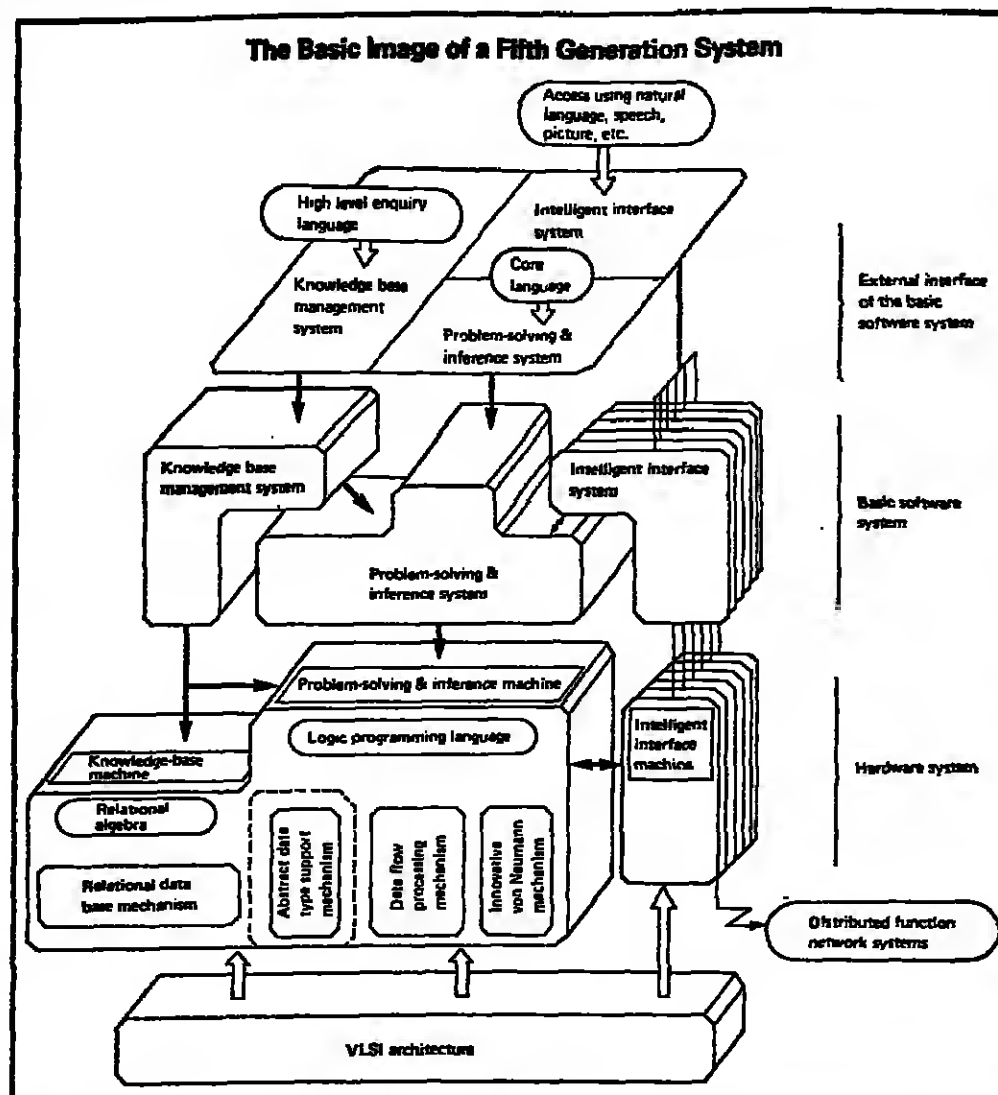
The NEC/ICOT workstation and computer can be combined together as a tool for research and development in computer software. The Japanese are already marketing the workstation commercially as a high-performance personal computer complete with interfaces to allow speech, Japanese text input and high-precision graphic display.

Late last year, ICOT demonstrated the range of capabilities of this workstation. It was able to work out the smallest number of moves to solve a puzzle involving numbered tiles with 362,880 separate configurations, and more spectacularly, hooked up to Yamaha keyboard, it was able to create four-part harmony to a given melody.

According to Mr Alex Stewart of Baring Far East Securities, who has been investigating progress in Fifth Generation computing in Japan and elsewhere, the workstation makes it possible to speed up the pace at which new computer languages for artificial intelligence can be developed.

"The workstation itself is less important than the software which runs on it. The software which controls the basic hardware is written in a machine (low level) language called KLO.

"The rest of the system, such as the operating software is written in a higher level language for ease of programming called ESP. This system is designed to handle object-oriented features as well as logic programming, meaning that it can incorporate "icons"



and "windows" for easier man-machine interfacing. (Icons are small pictures on the video screen indicating tasks to be accomplished; windows enable the screen to be split into different working areas. Both are features of the most advanced easy-to-use computers like the Apple Macintosh.)

Mr Stewart's report, Automating Intelligence, makes clear, the extent to which the Japanese thought through their strategy before embarking on the Fifth Generation programme, in contrast to West where the response was principally defensive.

Mr Stewart says: "It is a sign of Japan's ever-increasing influence that the West should only mobilise to meet the threat posed by the Japanese industrial

initiative rather than the challenge addressed by it."

He goes on: "The underlying challenge is how to cope with more expensive energy and raw materials, the consequent need to shift into more knowledge intensive activities, and the higher costs of providing social services and rising unemployment."

He also highlights the way IBM, the world's largest computer manufacturer, changed tack as the arguments behind the ICOT approach struck home.

With its vested interest in conventional serial computer architectures where instructions are handled one at a time in a linear sequence, IBM at first dismissed the Japanese initiative.

"IBM would like to exercise gravitational pull. Yet it cannot ignore a challenge which identifies so closely with the natural evolution of computer technology."

"From an initially dismissive posture, IBM has entered the field with considerable conviction. By its own determination to prevent the Japanese stealing a march on it, it has intensified its evolutionary pressures," Mr Stewart concludes.

He is sharply critical of the European response. Although the UK was the first country to react to the significance of the Japanese initiative with the establishment of a working party under Mr John Alvey, its assessment was conditioned by the Japanese initiative rather

than its own vision of the future.

"The Japanese had the advantage that their project formed part of a wider context; to prepare themselves for the 21st century. The British, like other Western nations, not having done such an exercise simply had to adapt their advanced computer programmes to fit existing industrial policies instead of trying to build them from the ground up."

The UK already had a strong base in artificial intelligence with a powerful commitment to logic programming, advanced parallel computing architectures and good pattern recognition technology. It also had the "Transputer," the Inmos high speed parallel processing element together with its programming language "Occam."

This could have been the building block of a Fifth Generation programme which would have stolen a march on the Japanese, Mr Stewart claims.

Instead, the advantage was thrown away. "The Japanese with fewer of the key technologies to hand, created the operating framework for the next generation of computers while the UK Government sold its majority holding in Inmos to the private sector without either monetary profit or gain to the wider industrial constituency which it represents."

A Japanese triumph cannot be taken for granted however. Although they have developed a machine capable of 200,000 LIPS, a machine capable of some 100m-1,000m LIPS is the goal, realised by coupling together 1,000 or so processors to give parallel processing.

In 1992, Mr Stewart predicts, the West will find many disappointments in ICOT's computer. "It will not be the all-thinking machine some hopefuls might imagine. It will be constrained from the start by a lack of well-fitting software. The architecture may still have a rather inelegant design."

Nevertheless, he thinks the Fifth Generation machine will be a symbolic step forward comparable to the commercialisation of the computers in the early 1950s. "The difference will be that the market for Fifth Generation machines will take off much faster because the software which runs on them will be aimed at a mass market."

Automating Intelligence, free to Baring Far East Securities clients; £275 to others.

## Made to measure with a diamond

BY PETER MARSH

TWO SCIENTISTS working in esoteric areas of physics have come up with a machine that may aid the development of new generations of materials and electronic circuitry for the aerospace and computer industries among others.

The machine, called the Nano-indenter, measures physical properties of materials a tiny distance below their surfaces—as little as 20 billionths of a metre (20 nanometres).

The £100,000 device is sold by Nano Instruments Inc., a company in Knoxville, Tennessee, that Dr John Pethica of Cambridge University's Cavendish Laboratory and Dr Warren Oliver of the U.S. Government's Oak Ridge National Laboratory set up a year ago.

Dr Pethica is a surface physicist who works in abstract areas such as the "tunnelling" of electrons between different energy states in atoms, while Dr Oliver is a researcher in materials in research, they decided that their idea for the Nano-indenter was too good to drop.

Although the men subsequently decided to return to careers in research, they decided that their idea for the Nano-indenter was too good to drop.

So far, Nano Instruments has sold three of the instruments, all to U.S. companies in materials or electronics. Other companies are showing interest and the Knoxville enterprise aims to sell at least a further three machines in the coming year.

The machine operates along similar principles to a record stylus. A diamond held on the end of an aluminium tube is lowered with a force that can be accurately measured onto a particular material, for example a metal-ceramic compound or a layer of silicon implanted with impurity atoms that will later be fashioned into an electronic circuit.

With a precisely engineered piece of measuring equipment, the distance that the diamond digs into the material is recorded. This could be a matter of just a few atomic layers—one atom for an element like silicon is perhaps 1 nanometre thick.

Feed details about the force of the impact and this distance, a computer works out details of physical properties of the material, for instance its hardness.

Due to the tiny distances that the instrument can measure, the machine can probe just below the surface of materials to detect, for example, the position where physical properties change as a result of "buried" dopant atoms in semiconductors.

These dopants, such as phosphorus or arsenic, change the electronic characteristics of silicon and are used to make different types of circuits. In research laboratories, it is important to measure exactly where the atoms reside to determine their effect on the silicon's electrical behavior.

Implantation of atoms in this manner is employed in the aerospace industry to make components such as engine parts more resistant to wear.

In other applications, with the Nano-indenter engineers can examine the structure of alloys or new types of ceramic materials, for instance, to analyse how physical properties change at junction points between different atoms in the material.

The Nano-indenter is related in technological terms to Brinell hardness measuring machines, which were invented at the beginning of this century by A. J. Brinell, a Swedish engineer. In Brinell machines, a ball bearing thuds into a material such as a steel plate with a known force. Measuring the size of the dent indicates the strength of the substance.

In the Nano-indenter, 1980-style electronics and engineering know-how permit very small distances to be monitored. The machine's diamond tip is linked to a coil that moves as a result of electrical interaction with a magnet. The force with which the diamond becomes embedded in the material can be computed from the electrical energy that is put into the coil.

The movement of the diamond into the material is monitored by attaching to the tip a metal component that forms one plate of a capacitor. Analysis of how the capacitance changes gives a reading for distance.

The diamond-stylus arrangement and the electronics for analysing force and movement are made for Nano Instruments by W. A. Technology, a small company of precision engineers in Cambridge set up three years ago by Mr Barry Ambrose and Dr Colin Wilson, former colleagues of Dr Pethica at the Cavendish Laboratory.

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## Standard for home computers

JAPANESE microcomputer manufacturers are already developing new machines based on a modification of the MSX specification devised by Microsoft of the U.S. to set the standard for home computers.

The new specification, MSX2, has been developed by the Japanese company Asahi, a Microsoft affiliate, according to Japanese Industry Newsletter, an English language review of Japanese consumer technology.

The new machines will have better communication capabilities, making them suitable for use as a terminal for videotex services and other electronic services. MSX2 may therefore create a new demand from home and office. Sony, Matsushita, Toshiba and others will market the new machines in the autumn, with prices of between \$395 and \$785.

## Actionwriter

AN ELECTRONIC typewriter which can also function as a letter-quality printer for personal computers has been launched by IBM at \$545.

IBM says the Actionwriter 1 is its lowest priced electronic machine. It says it plans, subject to FCC Certification, to make available a printer option allowing the new typewriter to be attached to selected IBM Personal Computers.

The computer giant is to discontinue marketing the IBM personal typewriter and the Selectric III Model 6701.

## Stop thief

MICROCOMPUTERS which "walk" with a little help from the light-fingered can be secured in a console from XL Products of Manchester called the Microgard. Processor, disc drives and monitor can be locked in place and the console itself locked to a secure point. It costs £60 plus VAT. More details on 061-872 6310.

## ADVERTISEMENT

## You Can't Knock It

Unlike a standard hard disk subsystem the BORSU 10+ drives are virtually indestructible. Visitors to the BORSU stand at a recent trade show were amazed to see disk cartridges hurled to the floor and the drive itself thumped, bumped and even turned upside-down during a read/write operation! In terms of the maintenance of data integrity these acts of apparent vandalism went totally unnoticed by disks and drives alike.

**Safety First is the Key**  
With storage density of 24,000 bits per inch the BORSU 10+ drives need a fairly extensive error correction scheme, and the designers have responded to this need—with a vengeance. Although each of the 306 tracks actually contain 70 sectors, only 64 are released to the user. Of the remaining 6 sectors one provides a 4096 bit parity check for the rest of the track. The other five sectors act as substitutes should any of the regular sectors become unusable.

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**Wolf in Sheep's Clothing**  
If you're thinking on mass storage systems is in a rut, prepare to change your views. Traditionally, you buy a hard disk system with 5, 10, 20 megabytes of storage, as the case may be, and what you see is what you get. Now BORSU have changed all that.

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£75, however, an extra removable cartridge will add a further 10 Mb capacity, ad infinitum.

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Whilst several companies are putting their trust in high-speed, multi-band tapes as the best back-up to a hard disk BORSU knows different.

After several years of exhaustive R&D the new BORSU 10+ drives look set to knock both tapes, and possibly even hard disks, clear out of the ring. After all, what's the point of tying yourself to single hard disk units when you can get the same kind of storage density (10 megabytes per drive), faster operations (under 5 seconds spin-up time, 35 msec access time), and all the disk space you could ever need on easily exchangeable cartridges—with none of the limitations of a tape?

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# Managers' guide to the perks pecking order

BY MICHAEL DIXON

"PERKING UP" has taken on a new meaning over recent years, especially in Britain where the importance of fringe benefits as an executive-type reward is greater than in many if not most other countries.

The proliferation of perks other than share options and bonuses has admittedly slowed since the Conservative Government took office in 1979. But they are still widely taken as a measure of a manager's or senior specialist's status. A good many people expect them to start sprouting again as a result of rises in employers' National Insurance contributions for highly paid staff.

The current state of the perks pecking order is revealed today by the publication of a report by PA Personnel Services. It represents a snapshot taken this spring of PA's continually updated survey of fringe benefits, and is based on information from 145 companies of various shapes and sizes. There is room here for only a few extracts. Readers wanting the full results should contact Shelle Smith, PA Personnel's pay research manager at 60a Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7LE; telephone 01-235 6060.

We start with the company car which, apart from pensions, is evidently the most widespread fringe benefit. The survey finds that high tax on company cars and the private use thereof have not curtailed the

## WHAT PRIVATE USE OF A COMPANY CAR IS WORTH

Approximate retail price of car	Estimated annual value of car use to employee when: No non-business petrol is paid	Petrol is paid to 8,000 m.p.g.	All petrol and costs are paid
Up to £4,500	2,450	3,300	3,750
£4,501-£7,500	2,750	3,650	4,100
£7,501-£10,500	3,050	4,000	4,450
£10,501-£14,000	3,350	4,350	4,800
£14,001-£19,000	3,650	4,700	5,150
More than £19,000	3,950	5,050	5,500

## HOW FREQUENTLY EXECUTIVES' CARS ARE REPLACED

Time same vehicle is retained	Chief executives	Other executives	Other top managers
One year or less	10	11	7
Two years	10	11	7
Three years	48	46	51
Four years	24	29	29
Five years	2	2	2
More than five years	1	0	0
Period varies	5	5	5

provision of wheels and petrol. Compared with last year, the proportion of directors with a car or some other or additional contribution to their private motoring is up from 77 to 85 per cent and the proportion of other senior managers from 39 to 45.

The survey report provides estimates of the yearly worth to the possessor of company cars of different degrees of costliness. The figures are shown in the top half of the table above. But before anyone studies it, there is an important point to be borne in mind.

Estimates of the worth of

this particular kind of blandishment are notoriously difficult to make accurately. Indeed when I published a similar table last year, one or two parties not unconnected with the motor industry protested that such valuations are so prone to error that it is irresponsible of me to print any figures at all. But provided that the tenuousness of the estimates is appreciated, I can see no reason to suppress the highly respected PA organisation's data.

The top half of the table is pretty straightforward. On the left appear various retail-price ranges. Next we

have the estimated private worth of cars in each of the price ranges when the employer pays for no petrol for non-business mileage, although providing the vehicle and meeting other running costs. Next again comes the valuation when the company also funds petrol for up to 8,000 miles of private use annually including travel between home and work. The last column refers to the lucky minority whose employer meets all the car's costs.

The bottom half of the table isn't all that complicated either. It shows the percentages respectively of car-supplied company chiefs, directors and other senior executives who are given new models at different intervals.

As you see, 6 to 7 per cent are not required to keep their old car much longer than it takes them to get used to it. Perhaps in the status league the fresh-car-every-year executive has now climbed above the old leader: the two-wheeler executive. Then again, in many cases the same person may have both distinctions.

Now to some brief summaries of the survey's findings on the provision of other kinds of benefits.

Just over two thirds of the companies have incentive bonuses or the like for top managers. Surprisingly the proportion so equipped among companies surveyed last year was higher: 71 per cent. Of those

with such incentives, the proportion awarding them solely on the basis of the performance of the company as a whole was down from 47 to 39 per cent. Companies including individual achievement as a criterion were up from 51 to 62 per cent.

For some reason the PA report gives no 1985 figures for share option schemes. But the 45 per cent of companies providing them in 1984 compared with 40 the year before and 35 in 1983.

For pension arrangements, nine-tenths of the organisations are contracted out of the State scheme, and seven in 10 provide for at least two thirds of final salary.

## Loans

Only one in every 20 of the companies has a scheme for assistance with house-buying. Such schemes all entail a direct loan from company funds and all senior executives below board-level are eligible. Oddly enough, the same applies to merely 67 per cent of directors.

Loans for other purposes—such as buying season tickets and what PA somewhat inscrutably terms "personal credit"—are offered at 13 per cent.

A tenth provide assistance with educational expenses. In every case the help available applies to costs of children at university. Private senior-school fees are subsidised in three quarters of cases, and prepara-

tory school charges in 38 per cent.

Almost nine in every 10 have a canteen or dining room offering subsidised meals to 97 per cent of board-ranking executives and 84 of other senior people. The average cost of a chief executive's meal is £2.75, and the next lower ranker's £2.51—which hardly amounts to bloated capitalism.

Two fifths provide free professional advice on personal financial matters, more than 90 per cent of their directors being entitled to the benefit. But only half give the same help to other top executives. Three fifths of the companies fully reimburse membership fees of approved professional bodies.

When transferring one of their senior managers to a different area, more than nine tenths pay all costs such as travelling expenses, preliminary visits to the new place, removal, temporary accommodation, estate agent's commission, legal fees and stamp duty plus a disturbance allowance. Except for the disturbance money, seven in ten provide the same to newly recruited top people who have to move home to take the job.

Last, but sadly often far from the least important: three in every five of the chiefs and of the directors are entitled to more than three months' notice. The same applies to only 28 per cent of the other managers.



## PRIVATbank Limited

requires a

## HEAD OF CONTROL DEPARTMENT

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H.R.V. Wessell, Consultant

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(Bangor/Wicklow)

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## BANQUE PARIBAS

## Banking Executive

Late twenties.

London

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Our Client seeks a man or woman in their late twenties to join the Banking Department. The person appointed can expect exceptional personal development within the Group working with a small and well established team. Work will include contact from London with Paribas worldwide. Candidates should have a minimum of three years' experience, including formal Credit Appraisal, gained at an Accepting House or an International Bank.

Candidates, who will be graduates from a leading British or European university, should be able to show a track record in handling specific corporate accounts and arranging transactions. A knowledge of an additional European language would be useful but is by no means essential.

In addition to a generous salary there are full banking benefits, including a subsidised mortgage and a non-contributory pension.

Please write in confidence, quoting ref. 641, and enclosing a detailed CV, to Colin Barry at Overton Shirley and Barry, Prince Rupert House, 64 Queen Street, London EC4R 1AD. Tel: 01-248 0355.

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## Major Pension Fund

Our Client, a major multinational company, currently seeks two Fund Managers to join their Pensions Department. Based in pleasant offices in Central London, our Client's Pension Fund Investment Department looks after funds to a value of £1.5bn, all internally managed. There is a considerable UK equity and fixed interest predominance in the make-up of their portfolio and it is in this area that they seek further support. The employing company itself enjoys a unique and enviable record for innovative man-management together with an exceptional level of employee relations.

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This is the more senior of the two appointments and reports to the Investment Controller. The person appointed, who is likely to be in the age range 28/37, will be responsible for managing directly part of the UK portfolio as well as coordinating the efforts of the team responsible for the remainder of the UK investments. At the same time, he/she will have a considerable contribution to make to overall policy, particularly as far as the UK itself is concerned.

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This appointment calls for a 23/27 year old Graduate who has already gained at least eighteen months' experience of investment with an institution, stockbroker or independent pension fund. The job holder will report to the UK Fund Manager.

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Please write in the first instance, quoting ref 646 and enclosing full career details, to Keith Fisher at Overton Shirley and Barry, Prince Rupert House, 64 Queen Street, London EC4R 1AD. Tel: 01-248 0355.

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## SHAW & CO PRIVATE CLIENTS

We are looking for experienced people to join our expanding Private Clients Department. Stock Exchange qualifications essential. Remuneration by arrangement. Phone 01-638 3644 or write to Andrew Pott and Francis Roberts at this address:

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## MERCHANT BANKING Baring Brothers & Co., Limited CORPORATE FINANCE

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Please write, in confidence, enclosing a full curriculum vitae and contact telephone numbers, to:

F.A.A. Carnwath,  
Director,  
Baring Brothers & Co., Limited,  
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London, EC2N 4AE.



## General Manager

FINANCE

A major national building society seeks a successor to its current General Manager, Finance, who is approaching retirement.

• **RESPONSIBILITY** is to the Chief Executive for initiating and developing the society's financial strategy. This is an opportunity to make a significant creative impact in a changing business environment.

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City

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Growth has been rapid and impressive and the following key appointments are being made to strengthen the senior management team.

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To head the syndicate department with the emphasis on pricing proposals, running the books on issues led by the bank, coordinating primary market business and having responsibility for all bank relations. (Ref. R.250/1)

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To be responsible for identifying, developing and concluding interest rate and currency swap business from existing and potential clients. (Ref. R.250/3)

### Regional marketing directors — new issues

Who will identify, develop, negotiate and execute new issue and related business. Experience in one of the following areas is essential — UK, N. America, Australasia, France/Benelux. (Ref. R.250/2)

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Who will trade the bank's positions in FRAs and FRCDs. Experience of market making in international securities is a must. (Ref. R.250/4)

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## Head of Quality and Standards in Training

£20,010 - £24,315

The Manpower Services Commission's Quality and Standards Branch leads the Commission's efforts to secure acceptance of objective standards of achievement as the basis for entry to jobs, movement between jobs, and within training and vocational education. In addition to encouraging development of standards of training, particularly in sectors with no such tradition, the Branch is developing, in association with validating and standard setting bodies, methodology on content, assessment and validation of performance; at the Government's request the Commission is now seeking to develop the Youth Training Scheme so as to increase opportunities for vocational training leading to specific qualifications.

As Head of the Branch you will be the Commission's chief quality adviser responsible to the Director of Youth Training and, through him, to the Commission for developing the Commission's general approach to standards, assessment and certification, and specifically for developing and maintaining quality and standards in the Youth Training Scheme. You will have direct responsibility for 7 multi-

disciplinary teams of professional and administrative staff and links with 9 regional Quality Advisers.

You should have held a senior post in the industrial/training/educational fields; have first hand experience in development/planning/direction/management of education or training programmes to meet industrial needs; have an up-to-date knowledge of curriculum and related developments relevant to Youth Training and vocational education; and have knowledge of standard setting bodies and how they operate. You should have proven management and negotiating skills and the background, status and ability to influence professional and national bodies concerned with standard setting, technical and vocational education and training, and training development.

Salary (under review): £20,010 - £24,315. The post is based in Sheffield and is for a period of 3 years initially with a possibility of extension or conversion to a permanent appointment. Loan or secondment will be considered.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 11 June 1985) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 1JA, or telephone Basingstoke (0456) 486551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref. G/6542.

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**Manpower Services Commission**

## UK Marketing — Major Multinationals —

Our client is a major US bank with a long established presence in London. They currently seek an experienced banker to lead a small team which is responsible for their relationships with UK-based multinationals. At Vice President level, the role encompasses managing an existing portfolio and generating new proposals to meet the diverse needs of these significant clients.

Candidates with degree/MBA will currently be dealing with major multinational companies at main board level and will be familiar with the full range of both commercial and capital markets products. They must have at least seven years international banking experience with a large US bank, display rigorous credit skills and have good knowledge of US & UK accounting and tax procedures.

The remuneration package is negotiable, and will depend on age and experience.

Interested applicants should contact Chris Smith on 01-404 5751 or write, enclosing a curriculum vitae, to the Banking and Finance Division at 23 Southampton Place, London WC1A 2BP, quoting ref: 3500.



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## ECONOMIC APPRAISAL ANALYST

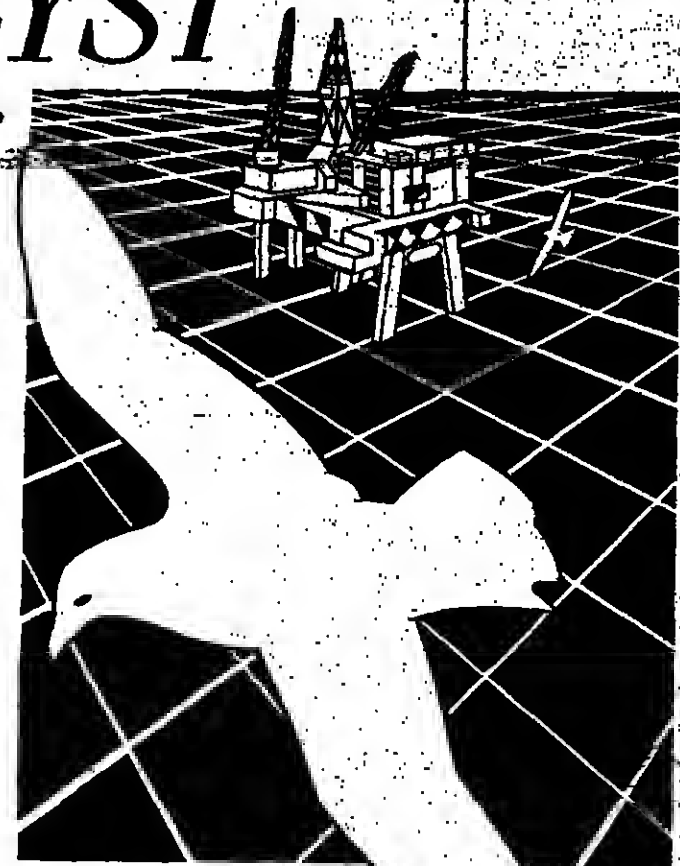
Already one of the leading offshore operating companies, the results of exploration surveys conducted show that we have the potential to maintain that position into the next decade and beyond. Realising that potential will, of course, involve immense capital investment; investment which will have to be preceded by detailed economic and financial appraisal if the right decisions are to be made. In the position for which we are now recruiting, you will, therefore, have an important role to play in translating technological achievement into commercial success.

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To fulfil your role, you will need a good degree in an economics, accountancy or business subject, an awareness of Treasury principles and a working knowledge of economic and financial appraisal techniques. A financial qualification, experience of computer modelling and an understanding of the North Sea Tax regime would be advantageous. Moreover, in terms of personality, this position clearly calls for self-confidence, self-motivation and highly developed communication skills.

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The remuneration package will depend very much on age and experience but for the right candidate will not be a limiting factor.

Please write with full career and salary details. These will be forwarded direct to our client. List separately any companies to whom your application should not be sent. Peter Evans ref. B.2021.

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## INTERNATIONAL BANKING

### CAPITAL MARKETS SENIOR EXECUTIVE

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Contact: Leslie Squires

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Contact: Sarah Beaumont

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Contact: Ken Anderson

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Contact: Felicity Hooper

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Contact: Felicity Hooper

Anderson, Squires Ltd., Bank Recruitment Specialists  
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01-588 6644

Anderson, Squires



## Corporate Finance Executive

### Bristol

Singer & Friedlander Limited wish to recruit an experienced Corporate Finance Executive for their Bristol office. Candidates should ideally be in the age range 30-40, with a recognised accountancy/legal qualification or related degree, and have had at least five years experience of corporate finance work, probably gained in a merchant bank. This is a senior position with prospects of further promotion. An attractive salary commensurate with qualifications and experience is offered, together with a good pension scheme. Relocation expenses will be provided, if appropriate.

Applications, together with a full curriculum vitae, should be addressed to:

Panton Corbett,  
Singer & Friedlander Limited,  
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## CORPORATE BANKING

Our Client provides a wide range of sophisticated financial services ranging from capital market related products, through loans, acceptance credits, tax-based lending, development capital, to the more traditional areas of corporate finance.

In line with the bank's continuing growth, it seeks to recruit an experienced banker to join its banking division where the emphasis is directed towards the structuring of creative financing transactions on behalf of its predominantly UK corporate clientele.

Our brief is to identify individuals with strong and broadly-based skills who can demonstrate the ability to contribute significantly to the maintenance and development of a highly successful and professional operation.

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Mason & Nurse Associates  
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Tel: 01-240 7805

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c£35K + bonus + benefits

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European-orientated capital market experience. Travelling extensively abroad, you will need a sound knowledge of the UK and continental corporate sector together with senior-level negotiating skills. Knowledge of European languages, especially German, would be an advantage.

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Candidates should write with full career details to: Michael T. Brookes, Associate Director, Personnel, Nomura International Limited, Nomura House, 24 Monument Street, London EC3R 8AJ.

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Please write to Michael Ping, enclosing a detailed curriculum vitae, including current remuneration, and quoting ref. E/55/F, at Ernst & Whinney Management Consultants, Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU.

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● Preference will be given to candidates with previous experience of providing financial services to high net worth individuals.

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**Merrill Lynch**

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Please contact John Webster

### ASSISTANT MANAGER - CREDIT ADMIN. c£14,500

Our Client is the Merchant banking arm of a well known international bank. Duties will be split between Loans Administration and Credit Review although the emphasis, from an experience point of view, will be towards loans administration. No more than a basic understanding of balance sheet interpretation is required.

Please contact Paul Trumble or David Little

### EUROBOND TRADER to £25,000

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For further details please contact Brenda Shepherd

### SPOT DEALER c£20,000

An expanding room with a good name international bank is available for an experienced spot dealer aged mid to late 20's.

Please contact Paul Trumble or David Little

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Telephone 01-626 1161

## SALES/MARKETING MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITY

### Market Analyst

The Baker Perkins Group is an international leader in the marketing, design and manufacture of capital plant and machinery for the worldwide food, printing, chemical and packaging industries.

In line with management development plans, we wish to recruit a high calibre Market Analyst to work in our Group marketing services operation based in Peterborough. Responsibilities will include the gathering, interpretation and presentation of market, business and economic data, including the preparation of detailed industry field surveys, to identify new business opportunities for Group companies. This may involve a total of 3-4 months each year researching elsewhere in the UK or overseas.

Within 2 to 3 years the successful candidate is expected to have made a significant career move to join the management team of one of the Group's operating subsidiaries. The position represents an excellent opportunity to satisfy the career objectives of an ambitious and dedicated professional. It will

demand enthusiasm, perseverance, initiative and the ability to work with all levels of management. The successful candidate will be a graduate in his or her twenties who, ideally, has also obtained a relevant business qualification. Significant work experience is essential, preferably gained within the capital or consumer durable goods industries, and working knowledge of one or more modern European languages would be useful.

A highly competitive salary and benefits package will be negotiated, including relocation expenses where appropriate. Peterborough is an attractive cathedral city with an excellent choice of housing, education and leisure facilities. Applicants are invited to submit full personal and career details, including present salary, to Mark Gibbard, Group Personnel Manager, Baker Perkins Holdings plc, Westfield Road, Peterborough PE3 6TA. Telephone: 0733 251261.

**Baker Perkins**

## Unadvertised Posts

Over 70% of the unadvertised appointments identified by leading redeployment consultants come from recruitment consultants. CEPEC's Job Search Guide lists over 100 leading redeployment consultants and costs £7.25. Phone 01 930 0322 or write:

CEPEC 67 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 6NZ.  
London 01-930 0322, York (0904) 642450  
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## Financial Editor

City

£17-25,000 + car

Our client is a major supplier of professional business services to a wide range of industrial and commercial concerns. They have recently set up an enthusiastic marketing team to help them expand and diversify and now need an outstanding Financial Editor to lead their publication activities.

The person appointed will be expected to write, edit, and progress the publication of a wide variety of promotional and technical material relating to the range of services. There will be substantial involvement with senior management and your responsibilities will include developing a network of freelance journalists.

Candidates should be graduates with a successful record of writing accurately and persuasively in a financial environment.

Experience of managing freelance journalists would be an advantage. You will be playing a pioneering role in applying creative skills to technical publications, and will need to be convincing and tactful.

This is an opportunity to develop your talents in a highly professional environment where intellectual demands are high. If you have the flair and ability to join a marketing team operating in one of the most dynamic sectors of the UK economy please send full personal, salary and career details in confidence to Alison Bott, quoting reference 1458/FT on both envelope and letter.

**Deloitte  
Haskins + Sells**  
Management Consultants

128 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4P 4JX

## TAXATION MANAGER

A creative role for a senior specialist  
Up to £24,000 plus car

Ford Motor Company Limited seeks a mature taxation expert to assume responsibility for its tax function. As part of the company's legal and tax organisation, the department is responsible for all aspects of corporate taxation, including VAT and social security taxes.

Versatility and a high degree of self-motivation are important requisites for this senior position. The ability to communicate well at all levels, especially with senior management, and to engage in detailed negotiations with the authorities is essential.

The position is likely to appeal to an individual who has gained considerable experience with the Inland Revenue or a major accounting firm.

Practical knowledge of a multinational environment would be helpful and it is unlikely that anyone under the age of 30 will have acquired sufficient confidence and proficiency to satisfy the high standards required.

The remuneration package offered to the successful applicant will fully reflect the importance of this key position - a salary in a range to £24,000 and benefits including a free car. Relocation assistance will be given where appropriate.

Please write, enclosing a full CV, to Chris Stephenson, Room 1/181, Ford Motor Company Limited, Eagle Way, Brentwood, Essex CM13 3BW. Alternatively, telephone him on: Brentwood (0277) 252217.



## Spanish speaking... SENIOR CORPORATE BANKING OFFICER

to £30,000 + Car + Benefits

Our client, an international bank, seeks an experienced Corporate Banking Officer to develop and market a full range of corporate finance consulting services and new fee generating business with governmental institutions, private companies and banks.

This key role, based in London, has arisen through the expansion of a specialist group with a strong and successful presence in Latin America. Applications for this progressive career opportunity are invited from Spanish speaking international bankers aged between 27 and 35 years who have gained substantial experience in marketing corporate credit and finance. A background encompassing formal US credit training and Latin American business experience, will be a distinct advantage.

The successful candidate will be a highly motivated individual who has a creative commercial outlook with an awareness of the macro-economic issues involved. Travel to Latin America will be frequent. An attractive salary to the level indicated will be offered according to experience together with an excellent bank benefits package.

Please contact Leslie Squires. Telephone 01-588 6644, or send a detailed Curriculum Vitae to him in the strictest confidence at the address below.

Anderson, Squires Ltd.,  
Bank Recruitment Specialists,  
85 London Wall,  
London EC2M 7AE.

Anderson, Squires

## Private Banking Officer

Merrill Lynch International Bank is expanding its private banking operations in London, New York, Switzerland and Singapore.

This growth requires an additional experienced professional to market the security collateralised lending operation to key clients through the Merrill Lynch brokerage offices in the Western Hemisphere.

The successful candidate should have:-

- 5-7 years experience within either Investment or Merchant Banking. While not essential, a thorough knowledge of the securities market would be of interest
- Fluency in Spanish and English
- an MBA or equivalent qualification
- Good inter-personal skills in presentation and marketing.

The position, which requires extensive travel, will be London based for at least one year, but candidates should be willing to relocate to New York thereafter. This is a senior marketing appointment which will be reflected in the compensation package.

Please write with full career details to Keith Robinson, Recruitment Manager, Merrill Lynch Europe Ltd., 27/28 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 1AQ.



Merrill Lynch

## PARTNERS ASSISTANT REQUIRED

IN PRIVATE CLIENTS  
DEPARTMENT OF

**VIVIAN GRAY & CO**

Applicants must have good knowledge of Stock Exchange procedures and be experienced in reviewing and advising on trust and personal portfolios. Preferred age 24/30.

Apply in writing, with curriculum vitae, to:  
The Staff Partner  
VIVIAN GRAY & CO  
Ling House  
10/13 Dominion Street  
London EC2

## FUND MANAGEMENT Japan

£400 million Portfolios

With this appointment we strengthen a team of London based fund Managers which has a consistently successful record in the Japanese markets.

This position is primarily concerned with portfolio management of equity positions in Japan. Responsibilities will range from researching companies and portfolio management, to creating and sustaining relationships with clients, stockbrokers and investment advisors. Applications are invited from candidates of outstanding ability who have about three years' Japanese portfolio management

experience. Graduates who have a good grounding in economics, finance or statistics will be preferred. Knowledge of written or conversational Japanese will be an obvious advantage.

Remuneration will be fully competitive and includes a mortgage subsidy, non-contributory pension scheme and free life assurance.

Please write with full CV, in strict confidence, to Chris Eastwell, Personnel Manager, Prudential Portfolio Managers Limited, 142 Holborn Bars, London EC1N 2NH.



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...with Charterhouse Japhet plc, a leading member of the Accepting Houses Committee. The Charterhouse Group provides clients with the full range of merchant banking services and, with its Development Capital and Venture Capital companies, has a strong reputation for innovation and professionalism.

We have a firm capital base, the backing of the Royal Bank of Scotland, yet we are small enough to be responsive and flexible - an ideal position from which to take advantage of the changing financial environment.

Our Corporate Finance Department will be one of the leaders in our growth over the next few years, and we are therefore looking to strengthen this area with additional

## Corporate Finance Executives

As a member of a highly professional group you will, after training, be given early involvement and responsibility in the handling of both domestic and international business ranging from contested takeover through flotations to off balance sheet finances. We set high standards but your success will be well rewarded through our aggressive approach to remuneration and benefits.

It is likely you will have had one or two years' relevant post-qualification experience, although this is not essential. Some exposure to special problem solving for clients will be a distinct advantage. We will look particularly for candidates with lively, creative minds and with the ambition and potential to build a fast-track career in this competitive and challenging environment.

Please write with full details to Rodney Barker, Director, Charterhouse Japhet plc, 1 Paternoster Row, St Paul's, London EC4.

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## Assistant Borough Treasurer

(3 Posts)

Salary £17,859-£18,933

Arising from a complete reorganisation of the Borough Treasurer's Department, three major career opportunities are now open to determined and ambitious applicants with relevant public or private sector experience.

As second-tier appointments, the postholders will represent and deputise for the Borough Treasurer, as required.

In addition, as members of the departmental management team, they will contribute to the direction of all the department's work including:-

- ★ Accountancy and financial management
- ★ Housing finance and income
- ★ Audit and rating
- ★ Administration and payroll

Consequently they will be expected to have the ability, potential and drive necessary to develop and improve performance throughout the department. In order to maximise performance and to develop potential to the full, the actual functions of each successful candidate will be determined in the light of their strength and career development needs.

If you would like to know more about these challenging opportunities, then ring Chris Ennis, Borough Treasurer, on 01-490 4343 ext 385.

Application forms, returnable by 7th June 1985, and job descriptions from Mrs Divers, Room 203, Town Hall, Catford, London SE6 4RU or telephone 01-490 4343 ext 252 quoting reference T2 and job title.



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## COMMERCIAL MANAGER COMMERCIAL BANK

A medium-sized Spanish bank is seeking a Commercial Manager for its new London branch, opening shortly.

The post will entail the marketing of international services related to trade finance, mainly to small and medium-sized companies in the UK. The Commercial Manager will report directly to the General Manager of the branch and will be responsible for forming a small back-up team in the near future.

Fluent spoken and written Spanish is an essential prerequisite.

Remuneration will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Handwritten applications, together with CV and recent photograph should be sent to:

Box A9011, Financial Times  
10 Cannon Street, London EC4P 4BY

All replies will be treated in the strictest confidence.

## ASSISTANT COMPANY SECRETARY

c£17,000 + full banking benefits

Our client is a British Merchant Bank operating worldwide from a base in the City of London. This is a new post introduced to meet the demands generated by a senior management restructuring. The incumbent will report to the Group Secretary who is an Assistant Director of the parent company. The Assistant Company Secretary will be expected to assume responsibilities for:

- The statutory requirements of 6 subsidiary companies.
- The placing and review of a major trading related, domestic and staff insurance portfolio, through subsidiary companies and via third parties.
- Providing in-house legal assistance across the range of documents and contracts arising from the business of the bank, the occupation of its premises, the purchase of goods and services, leases and personnel arrangements, including employment legislation.

• Management of purchasing and catering staff.

Candidates should have a law degree or suitable professional qualifications and be aged 28-32. Ideally they must combine experience of the above fields with a background in corporate banking or have related experience in one of the larger City based legal departments. Evidence of strong general management potential is expected.

Salary is £17,000 plus a subsidised mortgage, contributory pension scheme, 25 days holiday per annum, interest free season ticket loan and other benefits. Please forward a full CV with salary history quoting reference 367 to Terry Faller at Deansgate Management Services, 63/66 St Martin's Lane, London WC2N 4JX. Tel: 01-240 9555.

**DEANSGATE  
MANAGEMENT SERVICES**  
ADVERTISING - SEARCH - SELECTION  
A DIVISION OF WHITES BULL HOLLIES  
LONDON AND MANCHESTER

## Economist for Corporate Planning

An experienced Economist is required to carry out macro-economic analysis and forecasting over the short and medium term, focusing on exchange and interest rate movements in the principal currencies. Other responsibilities include the formulation of planning scenarios and involvement in the analysis of corporate strategic issues.

Candidates, ideally in their late 20's or early 30's will probably have a post-graduate qualification and/or experience in the appropriate area. Written and oral communication skills are essential.

Starting salary will be fully competitive. Other benefits are excellent and include non-contributory pension, London Allowance and assistance with relocation expenses, where appropriate.

Please write or telephone for an application form, quoting ref. B.227 to:

Susan Skolar, Recruitment Branch,  
The British Petroleum Company p.l.c.,  
Britannic House, Moor Lane, London EC2Y 9BU. Tel: 01-920 3484.

BP is an equal opportunity employer.

**The British Petroleum Company p.l.c.**



**BADENOCH & CLARK****BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER****To £20,000 + Bens**

Our client, one of the leading investment banks, seeks to recruit a high calibre graduate with two years' experience of marketing financial products to U.K. Corporates.

Ideally you should have a background in the Business Development Division of a Merchant Bank, a sound credit training and a desire to further your career in Corporate Fund Raising. The successful candidate is likely to have some knowledge of, if not direct exposure to, sophisticated capital market products and an ability to liaise with Blue-chip U.K. Corporate clients.

This represents an excellent opportunity for a bright young commercial banker to move into the dynamic Capital Markets Field.

**INTERNATIONAL CORPORATE FINANCE - CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT****c£16,000 + Bens**

A rare and exciting opportunity has emerged for a top flight graduate A.C.A. to pursue a career, as a Corporate Finance Executive, in the International Capital Markets arena. This position has arisen as a result of our client's rapid and successful expansion and offers excellent prospects. Initial duties would involve assisting a director working on an international portfolio, including responsibility for documentation, financing and marketing support. On-the-job training will be provided. For a confidential discussion of these and many other financial openings please contact **Charlotte Palmer** *London or Street Clifford*.

Financial Recruitment Specialists  
16-18 New Bridge St. London EC4V 6AU  
Telephone 01-583 0073

**U.S. Equities Dealer****Salary c£15,000 + bonus**

Our client, a major U.S. investment house, seeks applicants for a vital role in their dealing room, covering U.S. equity transactions.

A high basic salary and potentially high bonus earnings can be yours, as well as the chance to develop your career with one of the busiest and most successful U.S. investment houses. Ideally you should be in your mid-20's and have worked in U.S. equities, possibly with a U.K. stockbroker. You will be expected to be industrious, keen and tough, with a sensitive nose for news

and the ability to get on well with portfolio managers and colleagues. After 2 or 3 months on-the-job training, you could find yourself working harder than ever before, in an exciting environment.

If you're ready for the challenge, telephone Chris Smith on 01-404 5751 or write to him, enclosing a c.v., at the Banking and Finance Division, 23 Southampton Place, London WC1A 2BP, quoting ref. 3501. All applications will be dealt with in the strictest confidence.



**Michael Page Partnership**  
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Brussels 322 538 6877  
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**Coutts**

Career Consultants Ltd  
25 Whitehall London SW1A 2BS

**Inspection Opportunities for Accountants and Bankers (LONDON BASED)**

The Inspection Division of TSB England & Wales is an independent Head Office function responsible for inspection and audit of all operational activities of the Bank.

Within the division three important vacancies have arisen.

**Commercial Lending Inspector c£18,000 + Car**

This is definitely not a desk-bound appointment. A good deal of time will be spent out and about visiting branches with large commercial portfolios, carrying out inspections at Regional Credit Control departments, as well as providing specialist support and

training to the Branch Inspectors. The appointment is London based, although the postholder will cover both our London and Exeter Regions. A banking background, AIB qualification and practical business/lending experience, is essential.

**Central Banking Services:****Executive Officer****c£16,000****Administrative Officer****c£14,000**

This department undertakes reviews and investigations of the central banking activities of CTSB Ltd and TSB England & Wales. Applicants for either of the positions must therefore be able to prepare cogent reports for management and to produce effective systems evaluation and audit programmes.

The Executive Officer position is also responsible for liaison with the Bank's external auditors and for the training and super-

vision of the department's inspection staff.

Applicants for the Executive Officer post should be ACA qualified whilst applicants for the Administrative Officer post should be at least part qualified.

For all three positions successful applicants will receive in addition to the salary indicated, the usual attractive benefits associated with a major banking organisation including mortgage subsidy and non-contributory pension.



Please apply in confidence, enclosing a full CV to arrive no later than 6th June 1985 to:  
Mr C.P. Allison, Development & Training Manager,  
TSB England & Wales, Head Office,  
100 Lower Thames Street, London, EC3R 6AQ.  
Quote Ref. No. HFL

**MORTGAGE AND INSURANCE BROKER**

Exceptional candidate with West End/City background in insurance or finance required by Winkworth's Financial Service company to handle substantial mortgage business generated by the Winkworth Estate Agency Group and its associates. Successful applicant will have good judgment, ability to work under pressure and thorough knowledge of financial sources.

Please write in confidence, with full personal and career details to:

HENRIETTA SMYTH  
WINKWORTH  
25A MOTCOMB ST, SW1

**Marketing and Business Strategy**

£17,500  
to  
£21,000

The Corporate Advisory Service of the Agency provides consultancy and advisory support to strategically selected businesses. This service is to be strengthened further by the appointment of a Senior Business Adviser, with skills in the field of industrial marketing and business planning.

The objective is to provide companies with practical board level assistance on all aspects of marketing and business strategy. This includes identification and analysis of business problems, preparation of proposals and the implementation of solutions.

Success will stem from a graduate level qualification in a numerate discipline backed by sound industrial experience of corporate planning or marketing. Consultancy experience would be valuable, but a strong record in line management could be equally relevant.

Age: 35 plus. Location: Glasgow.

Please write in complete confidence to David Wolfenden as adviser to the Agency.

Arthur Young Management Consultants,  
17 Abercromby Place,  
Edinburgh EH3 6LT.

**Arthur Young Executive Selection**

A MEMBER OF ARTHUR YOUNG INTERNATIONAL

**Senior Investment Manager**

Manufacturers Hanover Investment Management Limited is the wholly owned subsidiary of Manufacturers Hanover Investment Corporation of New York and manages investments for international institutional and private clients.

We are seeking an investment professional to manage worldwide equity and fixed income portfolios. This person will also be expected to assist in the international marketing of the investment group's services. The position will be at either Senior Investment Manager or Director level.

It is likely that the successful applicant will be a graduate with 5-10 years' investment experience. Salary is entirely negotiable depending on the individual and will be supported by a generous fringe benefits package.

Applications should be sent to:  
John E. W. Bamford, Assistant General Manager,  
Manufacturers Hanover Limited, 7 Princes Street,  
London EC2P 2EN.



**MANUFACTURERS HANOVER INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LIMITED**

**BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT****On-line****Investment Information****City Excellent Salary**

Our clients, a leading firm of stockbrokers, are exploiting the available micro-computer and communications technology to offer private and institutional clients a comprehensive investment and portfolio service.

The division is established and now needs an ambitious manager to expand its cover both in terms of client base and the range of services.

You will be an inventive manager with knowledge of marketing investment services, an appreciation of the developing technologies and the determination to be successful.

For further details write or ring the number below during office hours quoting Ref. NJA.

**ROCHESTER**

Rochester Recruitment Ltd., 21 College Hill, London EC4R 2RP  
Telephone: 01-248 8346

**MUSLIM COMMERCIAL BANK LTD. LICENSED DEPOSIT TAKER****LENDING OFFICER:**

An opportunity has been created for the appointment of an experienced and versatile officer to join our newly re-organised team to enhance our international business. Ideally the candidate will have experience in negotiating, documenting and supervising a Euro currency loan/asset portfolio. Ideally A.I.B. qualified with minimum 3 years' experience in the practical field. Full C.V. to:-

The Personnel Manager,  
MUSLIM COMMERCIAL BANK LTD.,  
69/70 Mark Lane, London EC3R 7JA.

**Scrimgeour Vickers & Co****SENIOR BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT APPOINTMENT****—USE YOUR ENTREPRENEURIAL DRIVE TO DEVELOP MIDDLE EAST MARKETS**

Scrimgeour Vickers & Co and Citicorp have combined their expertise to take advantage of the radical changes in the financial market place. We require a Senior Business Development Professional for our Institutional sales teams to service and develop our existing Middle East client base as well as promote new business in the region.

Your background will be one of extensive investment industry experience involving stockbroking and fund management. In addition, you will need a quick intelligence, a lively mind, enthusiasm and the poise, confidence and maturity expected of an influential figure operating in a high profile position. You will be based in London but extensive client contact will be required, therefore you must be familiar with Middle East markets and culture as there will be frequent travel to the region.

The remuneration package and potential for further growth will fully reflect the importance of this key appointment.

Please write, enclosing a full C.V. to:  
Merian Davis

SCRIMGEOUR VICKERS & CO  
20 Copthall Avenue, London EC2R 7JS

**Venture Capital****Major opportunity in the field of Technology Transfer**

A leading City based Venture Capital organisation specializing in early stage financing and support of technologically advanced projects and the management of their market exploitation is expanding its team of key Senior executives.

The right candidate can expect an attractive remuneration package in the region of £35,000 per annum including the possibility of a participation in successful ventures.

Candidates ideally will have a successful track record in the field of corporate and product planning, business development and acquisition. They should have the appropriate financial skills and some technological background in electronics, instrumentation and software would be particularly advantageous.

Apply Box No: A5016, Financial Times, 10 Cannon Street, London EC4P 4BY.

**COMPANY SECRETARY**

Northern UK Base

c £20,000 + car, etc.

This key appointment is with a major industrial group whose interests include the manufacture and construction of capital plant and equipment. The company utilises the most up-to-date computerised facilities.

Continuing growth and major capital investment proposals have created a requirement for a Company Secretary with previous industrial experience. The Company Secretary will vet, control and administer substantial commercial contracts both in the UK and overseas. Other responsibilities will include group insurances, development grant proposals, and general legal advice in relation to patents, trademarks, etc. Candidates will have had an excellent professional education and be qualified solicitors and/or accountants with a strong sectorial background. Personal skills must include an alert, personable manner and the proven ability to communicate effectively at every level.

The successful candidate can expect an attractive salary and benefits package including relocation costs in appropriate circumstances. Apply in the first instance to Brian R. Daniels, Managing Director, quoting ref. 85/1436 FT.

**Daniels Bates Partnership**  
PROFESSIONAL RECRUITMENT

Daniels Bates Partnership, Josephus Well,  
Hanover Walk, Park Lane, Leeds LS3 1AB.  
Tel: (0532) 461671 (5 lines 24 hours).

**RESEARCH ANALYST HONG KONG**

Leading international stockbroker Hoare Govett is seeking a senior analyst to work in Hong Kong.

Experience of Far Eastern markets is useful, but not essential. Of greater interest is an established competence in a sector of a major equity market. The position will appeal particularly to analysts in the property, financial, manufacturing and trading sectors who are interested in developing global expertise.

Applications will be treated in the strictest confidence. Please write including your C.V. to: Alan Butler-Henderson, Hoare Govett Limited, Heron House, 319-325 High Holborn, London WC1V 7PB. Telephone: 01-404 0344.

**HOARE GOVETT**



## CORPORATE TREASURY CONSULTANTS

**London Up to £30,000 + Car**

We are looking for suitably qualified staff to join the growing corporate treasury consulting group within our management consultancy. The work entails advising our industrial and commercial clients on a wide range of treasury matters including domestic and international cash management, foreign exchange policy, financing arrangements, bank relationships and treasury systems. The work is varied and challenging and long term prospects with the firm are excellent.

Applicants should have a degree or professional qualification and must have spent several years working in corporate treasury.

Please send a comprehensive career résumé, including salary history and day-time telephone number, quoting ref: 2282 to M.R.Hurton.

**Touche Ross**  
**The Business Partners**

Hill House 1 Little New Street London EC4A 3TR Tel: 01-353 8011

## INVESTMENT RESEARCH

### ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT

Swiss UK representation office in the quiet SW London location has vacancy for a research and administration assistant to monitor with an acute and inquisitive mind an international range of investments (equity, bonds, forex etc). The use of a personal computer with Lotus and/or other accounting and simulation models is involved. Applicants (male/female), who will preferably be graduates, must have at least A-level mathematics and experience of two/three years in investment markets with an institution or broker.

Please send full cv in confidence to:  
Box A9004, Financial Times  
10 Cannon St, London EC4P 4BY

## Senior Financial Consultant City

Our client, a rapidly expanding Insurance Broker, seeks a Senior Financial and Pensions consultant aged 25 to 35 with a proven track record in the financial services sector.

This is a first class opportunity to join this young and progressive company. Salary package will be commensurate with performance.

Interested applicants should write, enclosing curriculum vitae, to Charles Reeves, ACIL, at 23 Southampton Place, London WC1A 2BP, quoting ref 3497.



**Michael Page Partnership**  
International Recruitment Consultants  
London Bristol Birmingham Manchester Leeds Glasgow  
Brussels New York Sydney

## TRADING AND MARKETING MANAGER

Our client is a firm of established and respected shipowners, based in London, who wish to recruit a senior trading and marketing manager to develop the potential of their investment in the new "Biffex" freight futures exchange.

This challenging appointment would suit a highly motivated self-starter, with good trade contacts and a proven achievement record. The ideal candidate must be able to demonstrate a thorough understanding of the international physical and futures commodity markets, including vessel chartering and all other essential trading disciplines.

A substantial basic salary plus benefits is envisaged for this senior appointment.

For further details of this position write or telephone on the number below during office hours quoting Ref: TC12.



**ROCHESTER**

Rochester Recruitment Ltd., 21 College Hill, London EC4R 2RP  
Telephone: 01-248 8346

## CHIEF DEALER COMMERCIAL BANK

A medium-sized Spanish bank is seeking a Chief Dealer for its new Loodoo branch, opening shortly.

Candidates should have considerable experience in Foreign Exchange and Treasury dealing in Spot and Forward, as well as Deposits, Acceptances and Certificates of Deposit. The Chief Dealer will be responsible for all aspects of Foreign Dealing and Treasury, reporting directly to the General Manager of the branch, and will also be responsible for forming a support team in the near future.

Remuneration will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Handwritten applications, together with CV and recent photograph should be sent to:

Box A9012 Financial Times  
10 Cannon Street, London EC4P 4BY  
All replies will be treated in the strictest confidence.

## A direct line to the executive shortlist.

InterExec is the organisation specialising in the confidential promotion of Senior Executives.

InterExec clients do not need to find vacancies or apply for appointments. InterExec's qualified specialist staff, and access to over 100 unadvertised vacancies per week, enable new appointments at senior levels to be achieved rapidly, effectively and confidentially.

For a mutually exploratory meeting telephone:

London 01-930 5041/7 19 Charing Cross Rd. WC2

Birmingham 021-632 5648 The Rotunda, New Street

Manchester 061-236 6409 Faulkner House, Faulkner Street

Bristol 0272 277315 30 Baldwin Street

Edinburgh 031-226 5680 47a George Street

Leeds 0532-450343 12 St. Paul's Street

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## International Banking

### Bank Relations to £35,000

Leading City Bank seeks to appoint a Senior Manager and an Assistant General Manager to cultivate business relationships with banks throughout Southern Europe, Scandinavia and the Middle East.

### Marketing to £30,000

Opportunities exist at both Senior and Regional Management levels. Responsibilities will encompass the identification and development of new business throughout Latin America. High level corporate finance experience, and familiarity with the Euroloan market is essential.

To apply please write with curriculum vitae or telephone George Shaw on 01-638 0382.

**JOSLIN SHAW**

John Shaw Limited, 1st Floor, 11 Broadfield Street, London EC2M 3AT

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## POTENTIAL PARTNER

required by old established provincial Stockbroker to help service Institutional clients mainly in London, also

**INVESTMENT ANALYST** to join existing small specialist Institutional team

Write: Box No. A9013 Financial Times, 10 Cannon Street, London, EC4P 4BY.

## BANK TREASURER

New LDT seeks treasurer to cover money markets and foreign exchange. This is an exciting opportunity with undoubted potential for the right person.

Please write with curriculum vitae to Elizabeth Hayford, LJC BANKING APPOINTMENTS, 146 Bishopsgate, London, EC2M 4JX, when strict confidence will be observed.

## Accountancy Appointments

### FINANCE DIRECTOR

£25,000 + bonus + Exec Car + incentive benefits

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## INTERNATIONAL BANKING

Jimmy Burns reports from Buenos Aires on a serious threat to Argentinian banking practice

## Banco de Italia collapse hints at further trouble

THE COLLAPSE of Argentina's third largest private bank, the Banco de Italia y Rio de la Plata, is proving much more than a simple storm in a teacup as some officials claimed at the outset. Quite apart from the immediate repercussions—a run on dollar deposits last week severely strained the liquidity of other banks—the collapse has revived serious questions about local banking practices. It has also put to the test President Raúl Alfonsín's electoral pledge that he would clean up the financial system and make it more efficient and transparent as part of the fight against 3,000 per cent inflation.

Banco de Italia y Rio de la Plata, or "Bia," was a familiar sight in the country's history. Founded in 1872 by an Italian immigrant, it benefited from successive waves of immigration and the influx of Italian capital. It had a reputation for being a bank of respectability and a checkbook and conservative performance in recent years. A hint of what lay beneath its public image was dramatically exposed during the temporary union occupation of the bank's main headquarters last week. From the windows of one of the city's most solidly built and oldest buildings, passers-by were showered by pamphlets accusing the bank's more recent shareholders of embezzlement.

"Grave errors of management, a large proportion of bad debts, and a high degree of dubious lending between company associates," was the post-mortem issued last week by an official close to the bank.

Italia's "modern" phase followed the military coup of March 1976 after a majority shareholding was bought by three Argentine business groups. Senior management of the bank was taken over by a construction group owned by

Sr Francisco Macri. The other shareholders were the Herlitz group, linked to real estate, and the Cirpo Juncal, which had as its main pillar 10 associated insurance companies.

After a brief interlude during the transition from democratic to military rule, the three groups set about broadening their horizons. Of the three, Sr Macri appears to have been particularly bold in linking the expansion of Italia to the activities of a growing string of associated companies spanning real estate, energy and manufacturing. These companies, between 1976 and 1981, mushroomed into one of the country's major private holdings involv-

### The bubble burst in 1980 with the collapse of the Banco Intercambio Regional

ing the Macri group in most of the military's prestige projects such as the multi-billion Yacra hydro-electric project and the introduction of mechanised garbage collection in Buenos Aires.

The late 1970s were boom years for the Argentine banking system as it accompanied a revival of free market economics. The Government over-valued the peso and boosted imports further with the lifting of tariff barriers. The aim was not only to hold down domestic prices but also to open up the economy to domestic and foreign competition after years of stifling protectionism.

The result for the country as a whole was certainly dramatic but not quite in the way the economy intended. By the time Sr José Martínez de Hoz—nicknamed the "Wizard of Rio"—by the international

financial community—had hoped. Bankers and their customers embarked on a financial extravaganza, greatly aided by the availability of foreign loans. The value of the peso and high domestic interest rates meant that funds could be recycled and turned into a fat profit virtually at the drop of a bat.

By 1979 Argentine banks found that they were offering interest rates on 30 day money of up to 134 per cent compared with a cost of about 80 per cent on borrowing abroad. Small wonder that deposits grew to a record 26 per cent of GDP from little more than 8 per cent before the military coup. During this period Argentina's foreign debt grew from just over \$7bn to over \$30bn, one of the most dramatic growth rates experienced in the third world.

A normal practice before 1981 was for a company to obtain a local bank guarantee to secure a foreign credit in dollars. This was then converted to pesos on the local exchange market and rechannelled into the bank which would then on-lend at an increased spread.

By law Argentine banks were restricted in their investments in non-banking companies or in pursuing preferential treatment of companies which were part of the same group. In practice, however, loopholes were assured by the lax exchange controls and the absence of any restrictions on the amount of foreign currency lending a bank can make to resident Argentine entities or individuals.

The bubble burst in 1980 with the collapse of the Banco de Intercambio Regional, which had grown in just a few years from a little-known finance company into a leading private bank. The collapse set off a chain reaction of bank failures and company bankruptcies. Italia survived but only just after losing one of its clients,

the agro-business giant Saseta, sold with debts of over \$1bn.

Sr Ricardo Zinn, vice-president of Saseta, flatly Argentinean, this week defended Italia's performance in those years when he was appointed executive manager by the Macri group. "After my appointment to the board in March 1978, the bank paid particular attention to reducing its operating costs, the modernisation of its systems, and pursuing new business activities to broaden the bank's underlying support," he said in a statement published on Wednesday. "When I left the board in March 1981 Italia was maintaining without problems its traditional solvency and sense of responsibility."

A slightly different picture was given by risk analysts at that time. They suggested that liquidity was strained and depositors were recommended to reinforce their relationships with the bank by close management contact.

By the early 1980s Italia had over 70 branches in Argentina and four representative branches abroad, the most important being in New York. It also had a banking company in Uruguay—a venture begun in 1978 with the specific aim of capturing non-resident foreign currency deposits—a 20 per cent stake in Trebol International Corporation, a Netherlands Antilles-registered company operating in New York, and a small participation in Bladex, a Panama-based trade bank.

More recently Italia has been at the centre of a series of swift share transactions, beginning with the sale of the Macri group's stake to another real estate company run by Sr Luis Gotelli, a former Minister of Public Works.

The Grupo Juncal, as the local representative and supplier for Wang Laboratories, the U.S. computer group, played an important role in pro-

viding advanced accounting systems during Italia's "modernisation" phase. But officials of the group said this week that they had kept a cautious distance from the bank's main activities ever since the Saseta failure, gradually shedding its shareholding, and diversifying into safer activities outside the financial system. In April this year Juncal accompanied Siemens of West Germany in a successful bid for ITR's local subsidiary, Standard Electric.

In March this year the central bank received notification of Italia's latest board changes and share swaps. Sr Gotelli has sold out to two businessmen, Sr Joaquín Abentín and Sr José

that Italia's underlying insolvency would anyway be tested by a package of financial reforms aimed at channelling the banking system away from speculation and towards productive investment.

The reforms finally introduced in April included a clampdown on blackmarket exchange operations, and the elimination of a veiled central bank subsidy to banks in difficulties. The measures were accompanied by claims that the Government had finally launched its offensive against the "Patria Financiera" (financial federalism—a term used in popular jargon to describe the deeply entrenched banking interests which are alleged to have enriched themselves at the expense of the common man.)

For all the hyperbole, it is clear that when it comes to a large bank like Italia, the politically fragile government of President Raúl Alfonsín is deeply divided between those who see the need to avoid proping up banks where management and shareholders deserve to support and those who wished to bolster confidence in the banking system.

In the final analysis, however, the repercussions of Italia's collapse are likely to depend less on good intentions than on the Government's ability to reduce the country's 1,000 per cent rate of inflation.

No amount of legislation is likely to improve Argentine banking practice so long as prices are allowed to fluctuate wildly and the future profitability of borrowers remains impossible to calculate.

### Prices are allowed to fluctuate wildly and the future profitability of borrowers remains impossible to calculate

Bartolucci, with interests in the meat packing industry and Celulosa, the pulp manufacturer. The main parties concerned seriously misestimated, by thinking that the move was just another in a series of uncontested share swaps.

The authorities, uneasy of the possible political implications of an alleged close personal friendship between Sr Bartolucci and a brother of President Alfonsín, withheld its approval pending an investigation into the bank's past activities.

In the vanguard of the opposition was a young graduate accountant, Sr Marcelo Da Corte, whose meteoric rise from the ranks of the ruling radical party's left wing was confirmed last year with his appointment, at the age of 32, to the board of the central bank. Sr Da Corte was among a group of influential officials who were convinced

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151	135	Asa. Bnt. Ind. CULS.	150	—	10.0	6.6	—
77	51	Almstrong Group	54	—	8.4	11.9	8.0
42	38	Armstrong and Rhodes	38	—	2.8	9.3	4.4
150	108	Sardon Hill	150	—	3.4	2.3	15.1
68	42	Ray Technologies	58	—	3.9	6.7	7.1
201	183	CCl Ordiney	183	—	12.0	7.4	4.0
152	110	CCl Ilpe Conv. Pral.	110	—	15.7	13.8	—
120	10	Carbonium Gr.	115	—	4.9	2.3	5.7
88	84	Carboradum 7.5pc Pl.	88	—	10.7	12.2	—
72	47	Deborah Services	47	—	8.5	13.8	4.5
32	182	Frank Hovell	20	—	—	13.0	17.0
268	170	Frank Hovell Pl. Ord	87	—	9.3	3.7	10.4
32	25	Frederick Parker	20	—	—	—	—
88	33	George Blair	33	—	—	—	—
50	20	Ind. Precision Castings	20	—	2.7	13.5	5.5
218	182	Isis Group	182	—	15.0	8.2	7.2
124	101	Jackson Group	105	—	4.9	4.7	4.9
288	213	James Burrough	237	—	13.7	5.8	6.4
85	83	James Burrough Pl.	85	—	12.3	14.3	—
88	71	John Howard and Co.	88	—	5.0	6.7	7.0
25	100	Lingaphone 10.5pc	88	—	15.0	15.3	—
650	300	Minihouse Holding NV	325	—	8.9	1.1	27.9
120	31	Robert Jenkins	31	—	5.0	8.5	—
60	28	Serentons "A"	34	—	5.7	18.8	17.0
82	81	Torday and Carlisle	76	—	4.3	1.3	8.2
444	330	Trendon Holdings	330	—	4.3	1.3	18.8
30	17	Unifac Holdings	30	—	1.3	4.3	14.6
102	81	Wether Alexander	75	—	7.5	7.4	10.1
247	216	W. & A. Yates	227	—	17.4	7.7	8.4

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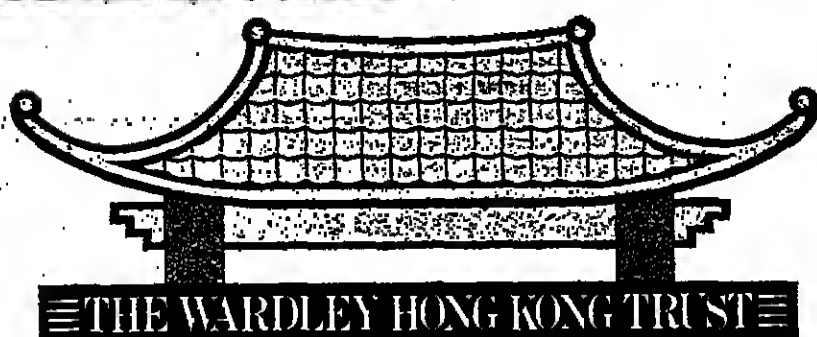
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## EUROPEAN INDUSTRY

Kenneth Gooding on the changing shape of the Spanish car group

### Seat recovery moves up a gear

VOLKSWAGEN of West Germany is keen to take control of Seat of Spain—but not until the Spanish Government has put the financial affairs of the state-owned car producer in good order.

Not only does Volkswagen want the Seat balance sheet cleaned up, the German group also insists that some of the cash for the next round of Seat's investment programme be made available before control changes hands.

A start has already been made. The Spanish government has written the Seat capital (nominal) Pta 36.5bn for (21.5bn) down to nil. Some Pta 42bn of new capital has been provided. In addition, the state contributed Pta 21bn to help cover Seat's 1983 losses.

Another Pta 45.5bn has been promised for the next few years to cover further restructuring.

Seat's last respite from perennial loss-making was in 1977. Since then it has accumulated losses totalling Pta 180.5bn. That included the peak deficit of Pta 35.78bn for 1983. Last year's loss was also above Pta 35bn.

Since 1981 Seat has had to pay for a rationalisation programme which will reduce its workforce from 31,000 at the end of that year to 20,000 by 1989.

It has also spent about Pta 119bn on new products and tooling, including a family of engines and three cars. Seat's ambition is to "combine Mediterranean style with German quality" so it turned to Porsche in West Germany for engineering help and Fiat Design's Sig Giorgio Giugiaro in Italy for styling for the new models; the small Ibiza, the medium-sized Malaga, both introduced already, and the mini Marbella, still to come.

Seat was able to get so much for what, in motor industry terms, was so little outlay because the designers were told the new models should be able to be produced mainly from existing tooling.

The Spanish group was forced to move fast to revamp its model range when in 1980 its 30-year association with Fiat of Italy, which had provided technical assistance and took Seat-built Fiat cars for its dealer networks, came to an acrimo-

nious end.

Seat can continue to use existing Fiat components for as long as it wishes, so the Malaga, launched at the recent Barcelona Motor Show is built on the floor pan of the Fiat Ritmo/Strada and the Marbella will use the Fiat Panda floor pan.

Volkswagen moved in to fill the technical assistance role vacated by Fiat. Unlike the Italian group which had a controlling shareholding, and decided it could not afford to put more money into Seat, VW so far has invested not one Pfennig in the Spanish company.

Cost constraints will ensure that the switch from Fiat-based components to VW-based ones by Seat will be only evolutionary and gradual. By 1988 Seat expects to have spent another Pta 175bn on its next range of models, three new "families".

VW wants to ensure that money is provided up-front by the Spanish government before taking control.

The two sides are also pondering Seat's huge debt of Pta 150bn mostly raised in the Eurodollar market. Last year the group's interest payments were equivalent to 18 per cent of its Pta 200bn revenue compared with the European motor industry average of 3 per cent.

But VW is an enthusiastic suitor because the relationship has already brought benefits to both partners. The Spanish market has been opened up to VW, previously held at bay by high tariff barriers against cars. And Seat's factory at Pamplona has been re-equipped to produce VW Polo, Santana and Passat models and will this year provide the VW dealer network outside Spain with 50,000 Polos.

Car production is cheaper in Spain than in West Germany where it is difficult to make small cars profitably. So Seat hopes to be given the job of producing all VW's Polo requirements when the current model is changed. There is capacity at Pamplona to make 180,000 of them on two shifts and VW's quality-measuring methods show that the Polos being produced in Spain today are at least up to German standards.

Sr Juan Jose Diaz Ruiz, Seat's commercial director, says: "It would be logical for VW to pro-

duce all Polos in Spain rather than 80,000 in Spain and 90,000 in Germany. But there are political considerations to be borne in mind, union considerations. However, there is a distinct possibility that it would happen."

Seat decided after the breach with Fiat to set up its own dealer network throughout Western Europe and in other parts of the world, including, eventually, North America. VW has helped speed up this process by putting Seat in touch with importers in various European countries.



Sr Juan Jose Diaz Ruiz: "It would be logical for VW to produce all Polos in Spain."

Sr Diaz Ruiz points out that the importers have carried most of the cost of setting up the European distribution network which enabled Seat last year to sell 81,200 of its own-brand cars and gain a 1 per cent share of the European market (excluding Spain) and 1.5 per cent when Spain was included.

However, Seat itself has put up some money to help importers launch the marque and its products. This cost about \$25m in 1984 and \$16m will be spent this year.

Sr Diaz Ruiz says this form of investment will tell off as awareness of the Seat brand grows. "This year we will sell 45,000 cars in Italy, 25,000 in France, 9,000 in Holland, 5,500

in Belgium, so the importers have a volume base and don't need our assistance any more."

He reveals that, even after paying for the launch costs and investment in establishing the Seat name outside Spain, "we still make five times the net profit we would make if we were exporting only to Fiat."

Not everything has gone according to plan for the new Seat management. Installed three years ago. Some importers did not live up to agreed targets and have already been changed.

In Spain Seat's market share has been falling and its image has suffered from recent difficulties such as various false starts to the launch of the Ibiza and the fact that the visual quality of the first Ibiza models left much to be desired.

The Seat marque's market share in 1983 was 22.5 per cent, but fell to 17.1 per cent last year, and was down to only 12 per cent for the first quarter of 1985.

Seat insists that, as its cars are being sold alongside Volkswagen models and the dealers are VW-Audi share must also be taken into account. However, while VW has gone from a 1.2 per cent share in 1983 to 5.5 per cent last year and 6.9 per cent in the first quarter of 1985, that still leaves the combined total down from 23.8 per cent in 1983 to 18.9 per cent at the end of the first quarter, 1985. The company has some way to go to the 25 per cent share it hopes for.

Sr Diaz Ruiz remains supremely optimistic about the company's production expectations, however. He says 1985 output should be about 370,000 cars (up from 296,000 last year) of which about 160,000 would be for the Seat network in Spain, 120,000 for Seat export markets, 50,000 would be built for VW and there would be 40,000 Pandas for Fiat.

Next year Seat hopes to reach capacity-level output of 400,000 cars, including 280,000 Seat and 120,000 with VW badges. Exports next year are targeted to be 130,000 built-up cars plus 20,000 kits, plus 50,000 Polos for VW.

If Seat achieves that targeted output, it should be profitable in 1987.

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# Accountancy Appointments

## Finance Director

S.E. England

c. £30,000

The major subsidiary of a publicly quoted holding company is looking for a dynamic and practical Finance Director. This is a key appointment in achieving profitable expansion for the Company which is engaged mainly in the medium engineering field.

Key responsibilities will include provision of improved management information to the Board, tight control and enhancement of costing systems and implementation, as well as financial reporting and the provision of capital expenditure appraisals.

Candidates will be qualified, preferably with a degree, and are likely to be aged between 35 and 50. They will be looking for the challenge of working with a dynamic Chief Executive on ambitious improvement programmes. In-depth knowledge of medium engineering/

manufacturing or contracting environments is essential as is knowledge of costing systems, cash management and the presentation of capital expenditure appraisals. Candidates should be computer literate and commercially aware. They must be capable of making a creative input at Board level, and be able to demonstrate a track record of so doing.

Please write in confidence, explaining how you meet our client's needs and quoting reference 4960/L, to A.R. Turt, Executive Selection Division, Peat Marwick, Mitchell & Co., 165 Queen Victoria St., Blackfriars, London EC4V 3PD.

PEAT MARWICK

## Group Accountant

We seek a young Chartered Accountant to develop and run the diverse accounting arrangements of a small, well-established and growing financial services group. Experience of stockbroking audits is essential, and of banking audits helpful. The candidate should be ambitious but careful, and able to integrate well with a small management team. It is likely that the successful candidate will be drawn from a company in a similar field or direct from an accounting firm. Salary depends on qualifications and experience, and prospects are excellent.

Please write with detailed cv to: Box A904, Financial Times, Bracken House, 10 Cannon St, London EC4P 4BY

## Finance Manager

London

c. £17,000 + Car

The organisation is one of the largest and most successful of its kind in the UK, generating income annually in the region of £10m. There is an increasing demand for its services which are oriented towards a specific sector of the community. Constant review of its affairs puts continuing pressure on improved efficiency and cost effectiveness of all its activities. Subsequent internal re-organisation has led to the creation of the position of Finance Manager.

Reporting directly to the Financial Director and working closely with Senior Managers, in particular the DP Manager, the Finance Manager will assume responsibility for the day to day running of the accounts department. Chief responsibilities will include providing accurate financial and

monthly management accounts, salary administration and day to day cash management. Candidates should be qualified chartered accountants aged in their early 30's with several years' management experience. An outgoing person with developed communication skills and a strong management style will match the needs of the job. Flexibility and the ability to organise will enable the successful candidate to deal with a wide variety of tasks.

Please reply in confidence, giving concise career, salary and personal details to Peg Eva and quoting Ref: ER783, Arthur Young Management Consultants, Rattle House, 7 Rattle Buildings, Fetter Lane, London EC4A 1NL.

ARTHUR YOUNG Executive Selection  
A MEMBER OF ARTHUR YOUNG INTERNATIONAL

## Chief Accountant

Aylesbury

c. £27,500 + Benefits

Our clients, The Equitable Life Assurance Society, are one of the leading UK life offices, with an enviable growth record and a fine reputation in the pensions and life assurance sector of the financial services market.

Due to the planned retirement of the present incumbent next year, they now seek to recruit a chief accountant who will be responsible for the control and development of the accounts and related functions, which are highly computerised on a twin ICL/2966 installation. Emphasis will be on the provision of enhanced management information to reflect the increasing complexity and volume of business handled.

Candidates should be graduate chartered accountants, preferably aged 35 to 45. They must have the maturity, experience, and leadership qualities required to meet the challenge of this very demanding role which has considerable growth potential. The generous remuneration package will reflect the seniority of the post.

Please write, in confidence, with full career details and quoting reference E2739/L to J.W. Hills, Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co., Executive Selection Division, 165 Queen Victoria Street, Blackfriars, London EC4V 3PD.

PEAT MARWICK

## Internal Audit Manager

Major Financial Services Group  
Portsmouth

Schroder Financial Management provides an integrated and comprehensive range of financial services to individuals, partnerships and private companies. We currently employ over 600 staff based in over 20 locations in the United Kingdom.

A vacancy has arisen in our Head Office in the centre of Portsmouth for a Manager of the Internal Audit Department. Reporting to the Chief Internal Auditor of the Schroder Group, the Manager, Internal Audit will be responsible for ensuring that Group accounting standards and controls are maintained, and will be expected to contribute to the development, implementation and monitoring of all processing systems.

The requirement is for a qualified accountant with relevant experience preferably gained in a financial services environment. The nature of the role calls for a high level of communication skills and the ability to interact effectively with senior management within the Group.

In addition to a competitive salary, we offer a substantial range of benefits, which includes a Company car, mortgage subsidy, non-contributory pension scheme, and comprehensive relocation assistance.

For further details and/or an application form, please write or telephone: G.M. Keeley, Group Personnel Manager, Schroder Financial Management Limited, Enterprise House, Isambard Brunel Road, PORTSMOUTH, PO1 2AW. Telephone Portsmouth (0705) 827733 Ext. 335.

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## Management Accounting with a leading investment/securities house

£15K + benefits

Nomura is a leading international investment house and a major force in the expanding Eurobond market. Growth of trading in bonds and equities, on a global scale has provided important opportunities for business expansion.

As the international securities business continues its complex evolution, new opportunities and new risks create an ongoing challenge for our senior management team, which needs accurate and extensive accounting information at its fingertips.

We now require an additional accountant to help collect, evaluate and present this management information, as well as to handle various other financial accounts, including taxation.

A recently-qualified ACA in your mid-twenties, you should combine a 'Big 8' professional background with a high degree of personal drive, maturity and commercial awareness.

The exceptional salary is supported by generous benefits including a bonus scheme, BUPA membership and a mortgage subsidy scheme.

Candidates should write with full career details to: Philip Granger, Personnel Manager, Nomura International Limited, Nomura House, 24 Monument Street, London EC3R 8AJ.

NOMURA

## Director of Finance

Herts

c.£25,000 + car

A major high street retailing chain that attributes its success to aggressive marketing, acquisitions and sophisticated computer systems, now wishes to recruit a Director of Finance. Future plans include a possible market listing which may result in further acquisitions.

The position calls for exceptional management skills, a strong commercial awareness and the drive and ambition to command a full board appointment.

The successful candidate will probably be a graduate

chartered accountant, aged 30-35, with retail trade and strong computer systems experience.

An excellent remuneration package includes an executive car and a bonus scheme geared to performance. Relocation assistance will be given if appropriate.

Interested candidates should write to Andrew Sales FCCA, Executive Division, enclosing a comprehensive curriculum vitae, quoting reference 257, at 31 Southampton Row, London WC1B 5HY.

FTP

Michael Page Partnership  
International Recruitment Consultants  
London Bristol Birmingham Manchester Leeds Glasgow  
Brussels New York Sydney

## Ambitious Young Accountant

Our client offers an excellent opportunity for a young qualified graduate to take on a senior problem-solving role and gain broad-based experience within a complex and demanding environment.

As part of a highly professional team you will report to the Director of Finance and Planning and be involved in a wide variety of projects spanning the entire organisation, which has turnover in excess of £200 million.

This is a completely unstructured, non-routine function demanding a high degree of personal initiative, excellent communication skills and the ability to work autonomously to uncompromising standards.

While abilities and talent will be more important than a lengthy track record, your background must include experience on computerised systems with a large organisation.

If you are seeking to progress your career and feel you can meet the requirements of this demanding position, contact us immediately on (01) 409 1943 quoting job ref. 1111.

Le Tisserier Executive Selection, By House, 37 Dover Street, London W1X 3EB.

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LE TISSIER

Executive Selection

## FINANCIAL/MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANT

We are seeking a qualified and enthusiastic accountant to manage and control all of our Company's financial affairs.

We are a long-established but lively company buying packaging materials, mainly from the Continent, for sale in the UK to pharmaceutical, cosmetic and perfumery houses. We have two small factories in England, sales of £5.5m and 175 employees.

An attractive salary package will be negotiated, including car and PPP.

Please send brief but factual career details (including day and evening telephone numbers if possible) to me:

J. M. Smith, Chairman,  
INTERNATIONAL BOTTLE COMPANY LIMITED  
Beale House, Bull Plain, Hereford, SG14 1DT.

## Financial Controller

S.Wales c.£20,000 + bonus + car

A world leader in its consumer goods sector is to double its production facilities by a major new plant investment. It therefore seeks a Financial Controller to be the top financial executive of this important profit centre. Future prospects are not limited to this subsidiary of a rapidly expanding British industrial group.

Candidates, aged 28-35, will be qualified as ACMA, ACA or ACCA. They will have successful experience in manufacturing industry, latterly in control of finance and accounting in a substantial operation. High professional competence, application and creative ability are essential.

For full job description write in confidence to W. T. Agar at JC&P, Selection Consultants, 104 Marylebone Lane, London W1M 5FU, showing clearly how you meet our client's requirements, quoting ref 2226/FT. Both men and women may apply.

JC&P

John Courtis and Partners

## GROUP FINANCIAL CONTROLLER

Salary Circa £19,000 + Car

Medium sized, highly profitable, Surrey based group of companies requires a commercially orientated financial controller who will be responsible for all financial and administrative functions reporting to the chairman.

Duties include the control of the financial and management accounting functions, the continued development of information systems and development of the computer facility. Planning and budgeting the group's activities will be an important part of what should develop into a broader role within the group. Candidates should be qualified accountants with relevant experience, late 20s-30s and proven ability to motivate and communicate at the head of a small team. Prospects are excellent.

Please send full cv to Box A904, Financial Times, 10 Cannon Street, London EC4P 4BY

## Business Development Accountant

Industrial acquisitions  
Rural Midlands c.£25,000 + car

This is a unique opportunity to join a publicly quoted Group with interests in electrical, electronic and light engineering markets. As part of its commitment to rapid growth, the Group is actively seeking new acquisitions and is looking to recruit a dynamic executive of the highest calibre to identify potential companies and undertake detailed feasibility studies.

The ideal candidate will be a qualified accountant aged 28 to 40, preferably with MBA, who has had international exposure to investigations, acquisitions and experience of intro-

ducing standardised information and reporting systems. The personality and ability to work at Board level, to contribute positively, and to accept considerable responsibility are essential requirements. Success in this position may lead to promotion in the longer term.

The starting salary is negotiable together with an excellent fringe benefits package.

Please write or telephone for an application form or send detailed CV to R. H. Southwell at the address below, quoting ref: AAA1/9339/FT on both letter and envelope. No details are divulged to clients without prior permission.

PA

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Tel: 021-454 5791

## Finance Manager Board Prospects

London

c.£18,000 + car

For a young and fast growing public relations consultancy with ambitious plans for further expansion.

In this new post you will report to the Managing Director and be responsible for administration and all aspects of financial planning and control. You will work closely with professional advisers on property, legal and tax matters, and act as Secretary to the board.

The man or woman we are seeking is a qualified accountant or company secretary with a background of sound professional or commercial experience. In the medium term there may be an opportunity to join the board and to participate in profits or equity.

Write in confidence to EH Simpson, quoting ref. S402, at 10 Bolt Court, London EC4 (telephone 01-583 3911).

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# Accountancy Appointments

## Auditors

### A career move into International Banking

Saudi International Bank has an impressive record of growth and performance since it was founded in London in 1975. Today it is one of the twelve largest British banks, and provides a comprehensive range of financial services to governments, financial institutions and corporate entities world-wide.

We are looking to augment our small and highly professional team with a newly-qualified ACA, preferably with some bank auditing experience, who has an analytical approach, good communications skills, and the ability to work both independently and in a team.

The successful candidate would undertake operational audits and be involved at the outset in such diverse areas as Foreign Exchange, Financial Futures, Commercial Loans, Investment

Banking and newly developed capital markets products - all in a computerised environment.

The Bank is committed to career development for its people and opportunities therefore exist for later movement into other Divisions.

Together with an attractive salary, a first rate package of fringe benefits, including a mortgage subsidy will be offered.

If you are keen to move your career ahead in a new direction, please write, enclosing a comprehensive c.v., to Robin K. Alcock, Personnel Department, Saudi International Bank, 99 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3TB.

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Saudi International Bank  
AL-BANK AL-SAUDI AL-ALAMI LIMITED

## FINANCIAL ACCOUNTANT ACA/ACCA

LONDON W1  
£16,000

FINANCIAL SERVICES  
DIVISION OF A  
LEADING RETAIL GROUP

Offers an excellent opportunity for a recently qualified ACA/ACCA to join our team.

The successful applicant will be responsible to the Finance Director for management information and financial reporting for a group of companies. He/she is likely to be highly motivated and familiar with computerised accounting systems. The position requires a wide range of skills to assist rapidly expanding and independently profitable group achieve its long term aims and objectives.

A substantial bonus related to performance will be offered to the right candidate.

Please apply with full cv to:  
Box AS002, Financial Times  
10 Cannon St, London EC4A 3DF

## CHIEF ACCOUNTANT DESIGNATE

South Coast c £20,000 + Car + Mortgage

Our Client is a progressive and growing non-life insurance company active in both London and the provincial markets.

They wish to appoint a qualified A.C.A. as the Chief Accountant Designate. You will be in your late 20's or early 30's and on the retirement of the present incumbent you will take responsibility for the total accounting function, including statutory and management accounting, supported by 40 staff.

You will have a minimum of two years' post qualification experience, preferably working in the insurance market or in the profession with insurance clients.

A full range of benefits is provided including car, subsidised mortgage, relocation costs, medical health insurance and other comparable benefits associated with a Company of this standing.

Please write with a full C.V. to me, Robin McWilliams, Consultant to the company. Applications will be treated with absolute confidentiality and your name will not be released until we have briefed you and you have given your consent.

Business Development Consultants (International) Ltd.  
63 Mansell Street London E1 8AN.

BDC

## Finance Director

North Surrey

c£25,000 + car

Our client is a major profit-contributing service subsidiary of a plc with a sound client base supported from a multi-site network.

Reporting to the Managing Director, the position is an active decision making role within the management team, entailing responsibility for financial control and all company secretarial duties. Particular importance is attached to the analysis and interpretation of accounts and financial reports for management and the need to achieve a balance between strategic planning and tactical reaction. Aged 30-40, you must be a qualified accountant with a strong retail or service

company background. Experience in a multi-branch organisation would be particularly relevant. Your self-motivation and positive personal presence will ideally be combined with some computer systems knowledge and previous exposure to contract negotiation.

In addition to the excellent salary, a generous benefits package is offered, including future participation in the company's profit-sharing scheme. Candidates should write to Don Day FCA, Executive Division, enclosing a comprehensive c.v., quoting reference 253, at 31 Southampton Row, London WC1B 5HY.

MP

Michael Page Partnership  
International Recruitment Consultants  
London Bristol Birmingham Manchester Leeds Glasgow Brussels New York Sydney

## NORTH EAST G.P./PRACTICE DEVELOPMENT PARTNER DESIGNATE ACAs 28-35

£15,000 - £27,500 + car

Our client is a fast growing highly profitable medium sized independent firm of chartered accountants operating in the North East of England.

The firm, which operates on a General Practice basis, but with a widely used in-house computer is keen to hire and develop a new type of general practice partner with the traditional auditing, tax, accounting and investigation skills but with the interest and potential to develop skills in areas such as client investment advice, computer consultancy and sophisticated general business planning advice suited to tomorrow's high technology client base.

Candidates (male or female) should ideally be general practice orientated with experience of large and small practice (possibly with some experience of industry) operating currently at manager level and be able to achieve partner status in two years or less. They should also demonstrate the confidence and personality to play a key role in practice development.

For more information please contact George Ormrod, B.A. (Oxon) or Tim Foster, B.Com., on 01-836 9501 or write with your CV to Douglas Lambias Associates Limited at our London address quoting reference number 5216.

410 Strand, London WC2R 0NS. Tel: 01-836 9501  
26 West Nile Street, Glasgow G1 2PE Tel: 041-225 3101  
113/43 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 4LN. Tel: 031-225 7744  
Brook House, 77 Fountain Street  
Manchester M2 2BL. Tel: 061-236 1553

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Associates Limited  
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DIA

## Financial Controller

Central London

£17,500 + Car & Mortgage Subsidy

Our client, a medium sized insurance company, is a subsidiary of one of the UK's largest privately owned groups. They now offer a challenging and broad based role for a qualified accountant. Reporting to the Finance Director, you will assume responsibility for the management of the finance department at an early date.

Aged 34-38, proven functional achievement and experience of departmental management is essential. As the initial responsibilities will include the implementation of a new management information system,

you will have considerable experience of computerised accounting systems preferably gained in the insurance industry.

The position is supported by an excellent remuneration package and there is scope for further advancement within the group.

Candidates should write to John Cockerill, B.Sc. FCA, Executive Division, enclosing a comprehensive curriculum vitae, quoting reference 256, at Michael Page Partnership, 31 Southampton Row, London WC1B 5HY.

MP

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## Help Strengthen a New Coal Trading Function

Play a key role in penetrating new markets whilst enjoying the flexibility of a small company and the secure backing of a major international organisation.

This industrial enterprise, with diverse interests in oil and chemicals, has recently focused attention on international activity and has established a new coal trading function. Its London subsidiary company deals with international coal markets and seeks to strengthen the Group's presence, particularly in ARA trade and has created a new coal trading position.

You will assist the Managing Director in further establishing the Group as a trader of coal products as well as of steam and coking

coals. This will include securing new markets and servicing existing clients.

An experienced coal trader with a knowledge of buying and more importantly, selling coal, you are probably aged in your 30's. You have a background with a major coal company or coal division of an oil company and are currently selling to industry or merchants. You have the resilience to operate in a competitive market and will command a negotiable salary, bonus, car and comprehensive benefits.

Please telephone or write to Sue Jagger, of Cripps, Sears & Associates Limited, Personnel Management Consultants, 88/89 High Holborn, London WC1V 6LH. Tel: 01-404 5701.

Cripps, Sears

## Financial Director & Company Secretary

Matthews and Yates, an operating company within Fairley Holdings Limited, specialises in Air Movement and Control Technology. It is one of the major UK suppliers of Fan and Air Handling Equipment to the HVAC and industrial markets. The company has been recently restructured and the product range extended by acquisition. It is now well placed to achieve significant and profitable expansion.

The Finance Director and Company Secretary will be responsible for the financial and management accounting functions, contractual aspects of commercial agreements, personnel services and the introduction of further micro-based systems.

Candidates, aged ideally 35 to 45, will be professionally qualified. They should have experience at Financial Controller level in a small (c £5 million turnover) manufacturing/contracting engineering company and must have a good grasp of standard costing. The ability to deal with the financial aspects of detailed engineering tenders is a prerequisite.

A very attractive salary is negotiable. A car, executive benefits and removal expenses are also offered.

Location: North Manchester.

Applicants should write with full c.v. quoting ref. AR/068, to:  
March Personnel Services, 33 King Street, Manchester. M2 6AA.

MARCH  
PERSONNEL SERVICES

## Group Financial Controller Director Designate

c£20,000 + Car Building Construction

The Clarke Group of Companies, the Midlands-based house-building, construction and property development group, needs a Financial Controller to be responsible for all accounting, financial and computer functions of the Group.

The task is to control a team of 25 staff, including chartered accountants and computer personnel and to develop the full range of computerised management systems for the group.

Candidates should be Chartered Accountants and have experience in the building industry. A further qualification to degree level would be useful. The preferred age range is 30-40 years.

Prospects are excellent in this expanding group and candidates must have the capabilities for promotion to the board.

Conditions of service include executive car, pension, BUPA, life assurance and removal expenses where necessary.

Please send a full c.v. to Barry Cowlin, quoting ref. no. A1230, or telephone for an application form.

Mervyn Hughes  
Alexander & Tye  
(International) Ltd  
Management Recruitment Consultants

MT

Blundell, Torrington Avenue,  
Coventry, West Midlands CV4 9UT  
Coventry (0303) 474525.

## Chief Internal Auditor

Our client, a highly profitable £150m turnover group of companies, seeks a professionally qualified accountant to assume total responsibility for the internal audit function, investigating a wide range of financial and operational systems at 125 U.K. cost centres, including head office.

Specific areas of responsibility will include reporting on effectiveness and efficiency of all financial and administrative systems, developing computer-based internal audit methods and playing a key role in the design and implementation of new systems.

In addition to holding a recognised accountancy qualification, you will have gained recent audit experience within a multi-million turnover business, employed either in the profession or in industry/commerce.

You are likely to be aged 28-33, although age is not a barrier for exceptional candidates.

Based in a pleasant Sussex location, an excellent salary package is negotiable with outstanding personal career development prospects available.

Please apply in confidence to: Stephen Mawditt, Managing Director

Senior Management International



Executive Search Consultants  
Landseer House, 19 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0ES  
01-839 2841



# Accountancy Appointments

## YOUNG AND AMBITIOUS CHARTERED OR MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANT c £16,000 + International Travel

Our clients manufacture office equipment for a world-wide market. Following a recent acquisition, they need a Divisional Financial Controller, with a knowledge of German, who will be based in S.E. England. If in addition to your qualification, you have a good knowledge of micro-computer-based accounting systems and experience in the preparation and interpretation of consolidated accounts, budgets and forecasts, please send a full cv, quoting ref FT/835, and listing companies to which your application should not be forwarded, to:

Jennie Peak,  
RILEY ADVERTISING  
(SOUTHERN) LIMITED,  
Old Court House,  
Old Court Place,  
Kensington,  
London W8 4PD.

## International Auditors

c £18,000

One of the world's largest pharmaceutical groups, with substantial operations in Europe, the Americas and the Far East, has recently promoted several of its international audit team to financial and management roles in operating companies. The group now requires two recently-qualified accountants to work as part of this team who will be based at the group's British subsidiary in Hertfordshire.

The audit department reports to the Chairman of the main board and works independently of any of the operations. Its objective is to review and evaluate financial and operational activities as a service to management. This involves the auditors in extensive travel with frequent visits to the group's head office and to operating companies throughout the world.

The department acts as a training ground for future line managers and therefore candidates should already have gained audit experience in a large organisation, be able to communicate effectively at all levels and possess a perceptive business mind.

Remuneration: around £18,000 plus benefits.

Please write in confidence to Jane Woodward (Ref 6413F) or telephone on 01 636 3722.



**Thomson McLintock**  
Management Consultants  
70 Finsbury Pavement, London EC2A 1SX

## Marks & Spencer Computer Audit

£16-20,000

Marks & Spencer needs no introduction. This highly successful company can demonstrate a remarkable history of growth. The company's success is based both on quality and a readiness to diversify into new areas.

An excellent career opportunity exists for a high calibre Computer Auditor within the Internal Audit department of the Head Office Finance Group in Central London. Joining a small, professional computer audit team this newly created position will have responsibility for audits and special investigations of computer installations, computer systems and communications networks. Additional areas of involvement will include reviewing new computer systems and initiating improvements in administrative and operational efficiency.

This key appointment offers exposure to a broad range of computer products involving the use of interrogation packages. Prospects are excellent; career progression within either the Audit function or the Finance Group as a whole.

Candidates should possess a minimum of two years experience in computer audit gained within either a large professional accountancy firm or the computer audit function of a commercial organisation. An accountancy qualification would be advantageous. In addition to a high level of technical expertise candidates should offer excellent communication skills, management ability and an innovative approach.

A first class benefits package includes a non-contributory pension scheme, free life insurance, profit sharing after a qualifying period and, at the more senior level, a company car.

Please apply directly to Jeff Groat at Robert Half Personnel.

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EC2Y 6BA. 01-638 5191

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## Group Controller

c. £40,000 + Car + Bonus

A major and highly respected public company with interests in high quality businesses in communications, finance and manufacturing, our client is generating impressive growth in the UK and internationally.

Reporting to the Group Financial Director and as a senior member of the London based headquarters executive, the Controller will review and analyse the performance of the group and its subsidiaries. With key responsibilities for financial reporting and control, investment appraisal and computer systems development, he or she will be expected to make a considerable contribution to the achievement of the group's business strategy.

Applicants, ideally in their mid 30s, must be graduate Chartered Accountants with an impressive career profile to date. Please write, enclosing a career/salary history and daytime telephone number to David Hogg FCA, quoting reference 1/2302.

EMA Management Personnel Ltd,  
Hulton House, 20/23 Holborn, London EC1N 2JD  
Telephone: 01-242 7773 (24 hour).

High-profile career challenge for a

## Graduate Financial Accountant

Recently qualified ACA mid-20s from £22,000 + benefits

This opportunity occurs within the Finance Department of Pedigree Petfoods, a substantial and highly successful division of an international group whose annual UK turnover tops £800 million. The Department not only provides a full financial service to the unit but also manages the treasury operations of the UK Group. The present role combines both unit and Group responsibility for cash management and tax accounting - involving substantial interface with the US corporate centre.

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## THE ARTS

Opera/Max Loppert

## Glyndebourne's first Carmen

A Glyndebourne *Carmen* at last. How long it has been needed and wanted. Sitting through the inevitable high house dilutions (especially those saddled with Guiraud's wretched recitatives), one has hungered so often for the pinpoint opera-comique treatment, in a theatre of the proper size, which this festival would seem heaven-sent to provide. The new show (sponsored by Glyndebourne) is conducted by Bernard Haitink, produced by Peter Hall, and has Maria Ewing in the title role. Though not everything came into focus in Tuesday's opening performance, the occasion lived up to a gratifying number of high expectations.

The Glyndebourne benefit that first insists on being noted is musical. Bizet's score sounds miraculous in this theatre. Dry acoustics do no harm to the scoring—the reverse, indeed, for the removal of all additive gloss, of what Martin Cooper has called the "smart, velvety, varietal" style of *Carmen* conducted in the Karajan, is crucial to Haitink's approach. Its absence, in combination with the brightness and pungency of the colours, makes for one of the abiding joys of the experience.

Conductor and orchestra (the PLO on a splendid tour) bring to the music a sense of ebullient enthusiasm that imprisons itself on almost every corner of the text. The first two acts, sprung on rhythmic movement urgent without ever being hard-driven, moved with a near-faultless command of pace. The mesh of dialogue and song was as seamless as could be hoped for on a major first night with a cast

largely non-French; and no doubt it will become ever better as everyone relaxes into the style. In any case, spoken passages given absolutely complete air as genuine as his delight in the more obviously remarkable passages that surround them, but the various styles were not yet exactly matched. On the whole, though, this already ranks with Abbado's Edinburgh Festival *Carmen* (another important small-theatre discovery) as music-making of ear-cleansing freshness, pierced with truthfulness and modesty in evoking the exact nature of Bizet's genius.

For the most part, the stage direction chimes wonderfully well with the musical. Sir Peter and his designer, John Bury, appear to have gone back to 19th century French tradition for the look and feel of their scenes—in spirit if not in actual stylistic recreation. This is most noticeable in the tavern, a shadowy moorish hideaway, den and haven all at once. Conceal light effects (the suggestion of footlights is most cunningly evoked). The action can be played out with easy intimacy and economy.

The impress of past theatrical styles, and of such artists as Delacroix and Gérardin on the design, does not inhibit the unforced naturalness that is a mark of Hall opera production



Maria Ewing as Carmen

at its best. Throughout, with the possible exception of the mountain scene (picturesque features here appear to cramp movement), the levels of "ordinary" behaviour and higher operatic intensities have been placed and joined with a skill as pointed as it is undemonstrative. On Tuesday I felt that the cast had yet to

seize all its opportunities: only Marie McLaughlin's Micaela, bonny, demure, sturdy, and most beautifully sung, could be counted a completely finished portrayal. But the prospect of such a "seized" performance is not far off.

Miss Ewing, an operatic actor in routine, declares the extraordi-

nary qualities of her Carmen from the first. No vamp this, but a lissome jolt laid, opened and devastatingly witty, with a quick temper and a strong line in doing the unexpected from impulse. The Habanera is almost as Piaf might have sung it: all evening one notes the encyclopaedic range of the singer's vocal device from blanching non-vibrato to powerful full throat. It is continuously fascinating, but in the determination to avoid easy routes to the character it is continuously overdone and overdone: the process of purification and simplification now needs to begin in earnest, for with it will come a stronger emotional impact, a sharper overall definition.

The José of Barry McCauley (recently noticed here in the Paris Opera *Alceste*) opened out from initial awkwardness to chart a moving study of self-willed downward passion in loss of control, mercurial in motion. If the singing was not always shapely or smooth, the larger impression was powerful enough to subsume the flaws. David Holloway, third American in a cast that also includes Malcolm Walker's excellent Morales, is a chubby, undangerous Escamillo—no match, unfortunately, for José's vigorous physicality.

Notable among the smugglers were Gordon Sandison's treacherous Doncaire and the alluring Mercedes of Jean Rigby; as Zuniga the veteran Frenchman Xavier Deprez, a little threadbare of voice while singing, gives everyone a lesson in idiomatic spoken delivery. The decision to cut short the weak final e-scene in musical phrases is ill-advised. It leads in some instances to positively ungainly results.

showed. Rossini's own aria opens up the extra dimension essential to his music but by no means always discovered by his interpreters. It also and inevitably stressed the shortcomings of this restlessly fussy, jokey production; an unlovable example of the "I say, isn't this fun" approach to an elusive (and much-abused) composer. The sets—Allen Charles Klein's which so singularly became more crowded and cluttered the more deeply the stage opens up, do not improve on second viewing. The toy-theatre storm scene worked by children went wrong. This aroused the sporting instincts of the audience, which yelled with sympathetic delight. Better, possibly, to scrap the idea and persuade the public to listen to the music.

## The Huguenots/Museum of London

Roy Strong

England has always had the capacity to assimilate alien groups into its society who become within two generations as one, but at the same time maintain the memory of their origins. Among these, few can rival the Huguenots in pride of descent, epitomised in the foundation, in 1858, of the Huguenot Society of London, membership of which is accorded only to those of proved descent from those who fled from France when Louis XIV revoked the Edict of Nantes.

The centenary of that society and the tercentenary of that event are marked by an impressive exhibition at the Museum of London (until October 31) entitled *The Quiet Conquest: The Huguenots 1685 to 1885*. The exhibition is in two parts, the first of which is devoted to the arrival of these immigrants, with a brief indication both of what preceded and what followed, down to our own day. In an age of ecumenism, groups like the Huguenots can easily be forgotten. After the bloody wars of religion of the late 16th century in France, the Edict of Nantes in 1685 guaranteed religious toleration to 10 per cent of the population which had embraced the reformed faith; in this instance, Calvinism, with its heavy stress on the work ethic and the practice of the virtues of sobriety and frugality of life aligned to honest dealing. Their form of worship—plain, reverent and democratic—looked place in temples and centred on the singing of the Psalms as translated into French by Clement Marot.

Little is known of their way of life until Louis XIV's Revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685. Suddenly the Huguenots were faced with either forced conversion to Catholicism, or their menfolk condemned to the galley, their daughters sent to convents. It was a deliberate, cruel eradication of a faith by a totalitarian régime, a fragile story brought vividly to life in this exhibition, above all in the individual stories of those who made their escape concealed in barrels, wine casks and pantries, or dressed in disguise.

The rulers of England had long offered asylum to persecuted Protestants from abroad. Indeed, there is a second exhibition to mount on the immigrant community which have formed such an artistic and intellectual stimulus to the Elizabethan and Jacobean ages. This subject is only touched here in items such as a miniature by Isaac Oliver, who had been brought by his parents from Rouen in 1568; a book by the hydraulic engineer Salomon de Caus who introduced man-

nerist gardening in all its fantasy (a garbled and inaccurate account in the catalogue); or the portrait drawing by Rubens of the famous doctor, Sir Theodore Turquet de Mayenne.

Huguenots in the second wave of immigrants held on to their language and corporate identity until the third quarter of the 18th century. They settled in two areas of London, Soho and Westminster—close to the court and to those who indulged in conspicuous consumption—and in Spitalfields, which became the centre of a thriving silk industry. To this day weavers' houses can be seen there. They had their own churches; the two principal ones were the Savoy and the one in Threadneedle Street. In the main they stuck to their own form of worship, although some adopted the Anglican liturgy in translation as it was used in the Channel Islands. Even today the French Church in Soho Square and the French Hospital (moved down to Rochester) still operate. All this is brought vividly to life in portraits, plate, prayer books and other documents.

This is an historical exhibition, but it has its art side. The Huguenots were watchmakers, sculptors, textile designers, engravers and silversmiths. Paul Crespin and Paul de Launerie were leading exponents of the rococo style: two cases here are banked with their work. Close by is a gallery of pieces from the Derby and Chelsea factories designed by Nicholas Sprimont or modelled by Andrew Planché. There are medals by James Dasser; portrait ivories by Jean Cavalier, David le Marchand and Isaac Gosset.

One name, however, crops up more than any other: Daniel Marot. He was the first man

in this country to be what might be described as an interior decorator. Trained by Bernini at Versailles, he exported his own brand of French court grandeur, adapted to the Protestant court of William III.

For William, he superintended the interiors of Hampton Court, and for the Duke of Montagu those of Montagu House. It is a rare chance to see some of the Montagu decorative panels on loan from Boughton, which testify to his skill as a designer. Magnificent wall decoration was married into a hitherto unknown complexity in the deployment of textiles, in upholstery and curtains. These were executed by another Huguenot, Lapiere.

Marot went on in design everything from gardens to state coaches. Through engravings this notion of the coherent controlled decor of a room under the direction of one man was disseminated as we can see, for instance, in one of a "china" room in which porcelain is arranged in patterns all over the walls. Even the porcelain was designed by him: here in a case are items he conceived for Mary II's Diary at Whitehall and for her Water Gallery at Hampton Court. The line of descent to Adam is not to John Fowler as clear.

As in all historical exhibitions, it is the melange of objects from unlikely sources which is refreshing. Time and again one is reminded of how much the Huguenots gave to their adopted country. In a century's time, will members of the communities that have arrived in our own day, in the aftermath of empire, be able to look back with as much pride in achievement and stage such an exhibition? I wonder.



A portrait of Paul Crespin (1694-1770), Huguenot goldsmith

## La Cenerentola/Glyndebourne

Ronald Crichton

Rossini's *La Cenerentola*, in the production by John Cox seen two years ago, returned on Monday to open the new Glyndebourne season. Except for the two step-sisters, Maria Taddei and Laura Zannini, the cast is new.

So is the conductor, James Judd, although both he and the Angelina, Carolyn Watkinson, have appeared with the touring company in these capacities. Andy Hinds, in charge of the touring production, is responsible for this revival.

Miss Watkinson's considerable abilities are familiar. She is not, I think, a natural comedienne, and the voice does not have the right tang for this music. Yet in her cool way, with her even, soft-grained tone, combined with power and

agility, she produced some notable singing. If anything, she overplayed the girl's development from gawky slavey to radiant happiness. The happiness of the close was convincing enough but the rondo was endangered by the violence of Miss Watkinson's assault on the high notes at the top of the triumphant downward runs.

Mr Judd whipped up the London Philharmonic to some energetic if not yet sufficiently polished playing. Better that than under vitalised Rossini, but volume is not the answer. For all the excitement of, for example, the crackling orchestral part of Magnifico's drinking scene, one was aware of some rough riding.

The men were good, even if their contributions did not yet add up to a properly integrated Glyndebourne experience. A grateful salute to a much-loved veteran, Sesto Bruscantini, for a portrait of Angelina's pathetic, dreadful old swamp of a father, which needed no apology on the grounds of the singer's own seniority. This Don Magnifico is an object-lesson in style, timing of gesture, and musical diction. Mr Bruscantini, moreover, was the only member of the cast who did not, in this over-loud performance, find it necessary to shout.

There is a new Dandini, Alessandro Corbelli, whose entrance on a property horse looking like Charles I playing Mozart's Commendatore is one of the production's better

moments. Mr Corbelli's incisive playing and singing when disguised as his master the Prince, the mixture of severity and eagerness in his demands for reassurance, and the slight suggestion of bitterness in the resignation with which he returns to his normal status revealed a baritone of distinguished quality. Prince Ramiro was the American tenor, Robert Gambill, clear and firm in delivery, a little hard in tone, but conveying a sureness of touch not often found among singers of this difficult role.

The philosopher Alidoro was taken most interestingly, by the Jamaican bass, Willard White—tall, dark and mysterious, allowing the big aria by Rossini for which an earlier one by another composer is often used instead. As Mr White impressively

showed, Rossini's own aria opens up the extra dimension essential to his music but by no means always discovered by his interpreters. It also and inevitably stressed the shortcomings of this restlessly fussy, jokey production; an unlovable example of the "I say, isn't this fun" approach to an elusive (and much-abused) composer. The sets—Allen Charles Klein's which so singularly became more crowded and cluttered the more deeply the stage opens up, do not improve on second viewing. The toy-theatre storm scene worked by children went wrong. This aroused the sporting instincts of the audience, which yelled with sympathetic delight. Better, possibly, to scrap the idea and persuade the public to listen to the music.

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## Susan's Breasts/Theatre Upstairs

Michael Coveney

The titular features—what Dud and Pete used to call "busty substances"—in Jonathan Gems's play in the Royal Court Theatre Upstairs are in fact an illusion. Susan believes she is flat-chested and sterile because of going on the Pill at the age of 14. An out-of-work actress, she slaves in a friends' restaurant and is caught in the jealous vortex of a pair of rival new Romantics, her live-in boyfriend Paul (Garry Cooper) and the enigmatic, fruit-juggling Lemon (Jason Carter), a musician in dark glasses who deals in sounds of the apocalypse.

Like Doug Lauder in Progress, Mr Gems is a lively and critical

chronicler of the new media-obsessed, middle-class, post-punk generation. Paul, for instance, is 28, on the dole, and he hasn't cried for five years. He is an unpublished writer running a course in sports car supplied by his father (eventually, of course, he lands a job as a copywriter with J. Walter Thompson). Then there is young Carol who joins the crowd from Welwyn, takes a room in Susan's flat and starts courting her for a giggle. She ends up covered in needle scratches, a disaffected pusher careering off to the latest fun palace in a black rubber corset.

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## Prey's Loewe/Covent Garden

David Murray

Few singers would dare to devote a recital to the ballads of Carl Loewe (1796-1880), but Hermann Prey has made a habit of it. That is not perversity, but plain good sense: the best Loewe songs are so appealing, so expert and—in their special vein—so original that they demand to be performed; Prey happens to be their ideal performer.

His Loewe recital at the Royal Opera on Tuesday was a predictable pleasure, and what it lost to the dull ecouette of the house was easily made up by the stylish brilliance of his pianist, Helmut Deutsch.

One hesitates to speak of an "accompanist" in Loewe songs, for in many of them the pianist is half the point. Though Loewe made a career as a touring performer of his own music, the effective vocal writing—more for singing actor than mere singer—depends upon the alert, witty piano, quick to respond to the nuances of every vocal phrase. The piano idiom stems from Weber, developed to serve the dramatic needs and the musical argument of Loewe's favourite

form: the narrative ballad, fabulous or historical or moralising. Despite echoes of Schumann in later songs, it is essentially early-Romantic, bright, forward and untamed; but it is also nearly apt and inventive. Like his exact contemporary Franz Berwald (born just before Schubert, died at the same time as Berlioz), Loewe holds an original niche in musical history without having altered its course.

Lively and faithful, Deutsch was a model Loewe pianist, and Prey is a pastmaster. From the "Erlkönig" (Loewe's vies seriously with Schubert's, and they are both "on 1") to the late psychological vignettes, Prey was cunningly natural, extrovert and disarming.

That is just what the songs are for. For Prey, the Prey baritone is less relevant than earlier days, prone as ever to settling on the bottom edge of notes; but he is a great communicator. Given that kind of artist, Loewe's expressive range of every vocal phrase comes fresh. Biedermeier period-bound it may be—but also tidy, and honest, and affecting.

## Prize day at the Royal Academy

The Royal Academy's Summer Show does not open publicly until June 1, but yesterday was prize-giving for those artists whose works have caught the eye of the professional judges. This year £11,800 has been awarded for pictures of special merit, with RAs capturing the two biggest payments.

Korn Ferry, the head hunting company has come in as the biggest sponsor, giving £5,000 to the creator of the work of most exceptional merit. This year it goes to William Scott for

his abstract "Variations." Scott is one of the grand old men of modernism.

Another celebrated RA Carol Weight receives the £3,000 Charles Wollaston Award, elected by a group of RAs. It is for his contribution, "Day of Doom."

This year 15,000 works were submitted for the Summer Show, of which a third were accepted but not hung, 1,712 actually grace the walls.

A.T.

## Kent Opera retrenches

Financial restrictions are limiting Kent Opera to just one new production in 1985-86. The Coronation of Poppea by Monteverdi which was, in 1969, its first opera presentation. The production will open in the spring of 1986 with Jonathan Hales as producer, to design by Roger Butlin.

Other operas will be Handel's *Agrippina*, which will be played at the Bath Festival on May 29-29, The Barber of Seville, for

A.T.

## Arts Guide

## Exhibitions

## LONDON

The Sainsbury Collection: Charles and John Sainsbury's collection of contemporary art since 1970. The catalogue of their collection, *The Art Of Our Time*, is being published in volume and a gallery established to make it available to a wider public. The gallery is an astonishing converted part of a warehouse at 98 Boundary Road, NW8, that offers more exhibition space for temporary shows than any other gallery in London, except perhaps the Tate. There are to be three or four shows a year, of a few artists at a time. Those now being shown are Cy Twombly, Brice Marden, Andy Warhol, Don Judd, and Richard Serra. The gallery is open on Fridays and Saturdays between 12 and 6, or by appointment. (03482899).

## PARIS

Besnier: An important exhibition of the most famous of the Impressionist painters, who never tired of glorifying the nude feminine body capturing the light, comes to Paris from the Hayward Gallery, London. It consists of some 125 paintings and 50 drawings, including Le Bal du Moulin de la Galette, Les Grandes Baigneuses and La Danse à Bougival. Grand Palais, Closed Tue. Ends Sept 2 (01 4410).

active dandies at various social occasions. This show arrives in Paris from the Barbican, London. Petit Palais, Closed Mon. Ends Jun 30.

Museum of Modern Art: An exhibition of which Renoir, with 15 paintings, is the glowing star. Yet there are other great names present—Gauguin, Signac, Kandinsky, Chagall being eternally Chagall, an unusually structured black and orange Léger, e Magritte, amazingly sinister. Galerie Daniel Maigne, 25 Ave Maigne. Ends Jun 15.

## WEST GERMANY

Berlin, Schloss Charlottenburg: Spandauer Damm, Neuer Fliegel: Berlin is putting on the biggest exhibition of Antoine Watteau to commemorate the 25th anniversary of his birth. The National Gallery of Arts, Washington, the State Museum of France and the administration of Berlin's castles are sponsoring the show. The French rococo painter of the 18th century was a pioneer of the modernist use of poor quality colours, therefore many of his paintings are in a bad condition and have not been displayed before. The exhibition includes 73 drawings and 143 paintings. Ends May 25.

Cologne, Kunsthalle, Josef-Haubrich-Hof I: "Ornamenta Ecclesiae." To underline the importance of the Baroque church, the Cologne Schnitzmuseum has organised an exhibition of roughly 600 religious works from 11th to 13th century. These are illuminated manuscripts and gold artifacts from museums and collections from all over the world. Ends Jun 8.

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Berlin, Gropius Haus, Stresemannstr. 110 Berlin 61: Treasures of the Forbidden Cities. Timed to coincide with this year's Berlin Horizon 85, the Peking Palace Museum is coming to Europe for the first time, with roughly 120 works covering 3500 years of Chinese history. The exhibition in Berlin includes gold, jade, paintings, porcelain, musical instruments and calligraphy. Ends August 18.

## VIENNA

Vienna 1870-1930: Dream and Reality: The greatest names of the Viennese fin-de-siècle—Klimt, Otto Wagner, Schiele, Kokoschka, Aldolf Loos, Josef Hoffmann—in a dazzling display of Jugendstil creative genius. The attempt to integrate the artistic achievements of this era with philosophical developments (notably Wittgenstein but also Freud) and political transformations (the emergence of municipal socialism on the ruins of Baroque splendour) is ambitious and only partly successful. The complex tension between autocratic and censured reality on the one hand and the illusions or fantasies of individual artists on the other is

hinted at but not fully explored. A high point of the show is a reconstruction of Hoffman's room at the secession exhibition of 1902. These, fifty-foot Beethoven friezes depicting humanity's progress through suffering to joy on the theme of the Ninth Symphony. Displayed exactly as intended, this alone is worth a special visit. Kunsterhaus. Ends October 6.

## BRUSSELS

Hôtel Metropole is celebrating its 80th year and in its splendid *Salon de la République* public areas, worth a visit in themselves, they are exhibiting glass and objects d'art from the Belle Époque to Art Nouveau including works by Wouters, Gallé and Daum. Also on show are a collection of illustrated menu cards including a Press Banquet in 1893, Congo in 1898 and Sarah Bernhardt in 1896. Ends Jul 20.

## ITALY

Genoa, Palazzo Della Commenda: Japan - The Awa-Garde of the Future: Antique Kimonos from Kyoto form part of the historical section of a large exhibition of contemporary Japanese art at various centres in Genoa. The series of early Japanese erotic prints (from the Museo Chiassone)—shown here for the first time in public—form an amusing contrast with Hajime Sorayama's sexy robots (at the Teatro Fieschi), which are everywhere in Italy at the moment advertising a well-known make of car. Until mid-June.

Venice, Palazzo Fortuny: Toys for the science-fiction era, showing how vastly more sophisticated robots have been since first produced in the 1950s. Ends Jul 1.

Naples, Capolavori Museum: The Age of Caravaggio: This huge and highly successful exhibition moves this month from the Metropolitan in New York to Naples. Michelangelo Merisi, better known as Caravaggio (the name of the town near Milan where he was born four centuries ago) led an anguished life: a torn outsider, licentious, violent and always in trouble with the authorities. His powerful and super-realistic paintings offended the conventionally pious. That they survived is thanks only to a handful of rich and discriminating patrons. Until End of June.

## NETHERLANDS

Paul Klee at the Commanderie van Sint-Jan Museum in Nijmegen. 60 paintings, watercolours and drawings covering the years 1905-36 on loan from the holdings of the Kunstszamming Nordrhein-Westfalen. Ends Jun 23.

## NEW YORK

Metropolitan Museum: 36 objects from the period between the 1851 Crystal Palace Exhibition to the 1900 World Fair in Paris demonstrate the show's theme of Revivals and Explorations in European decorative arts. Ends Sept 5.

Museum of Modern Art: The first comprehensive retrospective of Henri Rousseau, including 60 works from

as far away as Prague, show the masterful playfulness of the Paris toll collector who brought together man and nature at their most benign and intriguing. Ends June 4.

Treasures from the New York Public Library: 200 works chosen from one of the five best library collections in the world may cover America better than Europe, but the inclusion of a Gutenberg Bible, the Tichfield Psalter and French bindings supplements Americana, such as examples of Mafville's work, announcements of the discovery of New York, and 24 (42nd & 5th Ave).

## WASHINGTON

National Gallery: Ancient Art of the Americas: Woodland Indians include 151 pieces covering 5,000 years of sculpture, ceramics, copper and shell objects of the native Americans who lived in what is now the eastern half of the U.S. Ends Aug 4.

National Gallery (West Bldg): 36 old master paintings from the Dulwich Picture Gallery are exhibited under the title *Collection for a King*, including works by Rembrandt, Van Dyck, Canaletto and Gainsborough. Ends Sept 2.

## CHICAGO

Art Institute: Though Edward Masek made etchings primarily to reproduce and publicise his paintings, he developed a unique style as shown in the 27 etchings in this special exhibit of more than a third of his total output of 78 etchings. Ends Sept 2.



## FINANCIAL TIMES

BRACKEN HOUSE, CANNON STREET, LONDON EC4P 4BY  
 Telegrams: Finantimo, London PS4. Telex: 8954871  
 Telephone: 01-2488000

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## Soft option for Israel

CRISIS package after crisis package has signally failed to put a lasting halt to hyperinflation in Israel. That experience alone justifies scepticism about the latest measures announced on Sunday. The Minister of Finance himself seems to share that feeling. He said openly that political considerations had prevented the Government from taking measures as drastic as it would have liked.

In a democracy such as Israel, governments always must pay regard to the interests and wishes of their electorate. But a failure to give leadership will eventually bring down any government or cause serious harm to the country. Mr. Simon Peres and his cabinet know that as well as anybody else. Why then are they unwilling to act with the determination that they know is necessary?

The simple answer is "Uncle Sam." Governments in Israel know from experience that when things threaten to get out of hand the Administration in Washington will help. This year Israel has had "routine" help of \$2.6bn for military ends and to steady the balance of payments. In order to deal with the latest economic crisis, the U.S. Administration has asked Congress for another \$2.6bn emergency aid for this year and next.

## Powerful friends

As long as it knows that it will always be bailed out by the Americans, an Israeli government does not have a convincing reason for being too tough with its electorate. The question is whether U.S. generosity is assured for ever.

Tel Aviv's negotiating position is undeniably strong. Israel is the mainstay of U.S. policy in the Middle East and has many powerful friends in America. Yet there have been signs of impatience from Washington. Mr. George Shultz, the Secretary of State, has asked for economic reforms to put Israel on a sound financial footing. He sent out two leading economists, Professors Herbert Stein and Stanley Fischer, to make recommendations, some—but only some—of which Mr. Peres has accepted.

What Mr. Peres has accepted is to do it to put through a sharp devaluation of the shekel and

to abolish the indexing of wages to the cost of living index which is intended to take the sting out of inflation. On a broader plane, he has refused to combat inflation at the risk of creating unemployment.

This attitude almost inevitably leads to half measures. Thus the increases in indirect taxes to restrain excessive private consumption will be partly, or even wholly, nullified by the indexation of wages.

On the issue of principle, Mr. Peres may find in due course that even in Israel inflation eventually destroys jobs, just as it has done elsewhere. Economic growth in Israel has been extremely sluggish during the 1980s. Business is unable or unwilling to invest in productive capacity. One reason is the index-linked financial instruments offer a more assured return than money invested at risk. The effects of "not show in the unemployment" figures, but hidden unemployment is widespread.

Mr. Peres and his Cabinet have acted upon two other proposals from the American experts. They are planning to adopt legislation forbidding government departments to overspend their estimates. Spending control has been lax in the past—hardly surprising when the inflation rate has not dropped below 100 per cent in any one year of the 1980s. The effectiveness of the new measure may be doubted: old habits die hard.

More promisingly, the power of the Government to order the central bank to print money with which to cover budget deficits is to be phased out over three years. The step is timid, but is in the right direction. Monetary control is an essential instrument of the control of inflation. But the creation of an instrument designed to help with monetary control is not by itself enough: there needs to be a readiness to use it.

The implication is that, even with the new crisis package adopted, Israel has barely begun to tackle the twin problems of inflation and of external deficits, both of which stem from private consumption that is excessive even after a modest fall last year. Israel has not abandoned the soft option.

## Reforming the schools

ONE OF the main reasons for Britain's poor industrial performance is the inadequacy of the country's education and training systems. Differences in productivity between comparable British and German plants in large measure stem from differences in the vocational qualifications of the workforce, particularly at the foreman and operator level. The Government might claim that, with the expansion of the Youth Training Scheme, it is taking steps to overcome this problem. But even if the YTS succeeds in bringing about a decisive improvement in the quality of training, which is far from certain, an even bigger weakness is evident at the pre-YTS training stage—in the schools.

A study of schooling standards in England and Germany, published in today's National Institute Economic Review, makes it clear that all the excellence of the English system in catering for the most scholarly pupils, it does a very poor job indeed for people of, at best, average academic ability. It is here that German arrangements are so clearly superior, with important consequences for the quality of the workforce. Although there is much agonising in government and elsewhere about the deficiencies of Britain's schools, there is not much sign yet of a real determination to remedy them.

## System imbalance

It is not that Germany devotes any more resources to its schools than the UK. There is not much difference in pupil-teacher ratios and the proportion of GDP absorbed by education seems to be lower in Germany. The point is that the schools are better organised and more sharply focused towards clear objectives. The German system provides a broader curriculum, combined with significantly higher levels of mathematical attainment, for a greater proportion of pupils than does the English system; differences are particularly marked at the lower half of the academic ranking. The German schools also provide more pre-vocational instruction and this has a definite commercial and industrial emphasis.

The study underlines the imbalance of the English system between the top and the bottom ends of the academic range. Partly because of exceptionally early specialisation,

the top performers reach standards not matched in Germany or in any other advanced country. But this has been bought at a heavy cost among the bulk of the population which cannot aspire to the academic heights.

Only about a tenth of all pupils in Germany leave school without a certificate attesting to the satisfactory completion of their studies covering a broad range of basic subjects. In England, the bottom 40 per cent have so far been excluded, as a matter of policy, from the provision of an examined qualification which caters for the potential level of attainment; incentives to work hard in the final years are consequently low. Moreover, German pupils need to achieve satisfactory marks calculated in relation to all subjects, stricter requirements are laid down for core subjects including mathematics. No certificates are awarded for single subjects as they are in England.

## National curriculum

The study refers to the development, over a long period, of an intermediate system of schooling in Germany, the Real Schule, with an orientation towards scientific, technical and business requirements, deliberately contrasting with the older, classical secondary school curriculum. In England, the attempt to graft technical subjects on to the traditional curriculum has been a less successful. The resulting compromise on educational values continues to be heavily biased towards the minority of university entrants.

One of the obvious gaps in England is the lack of a nationally prescribed curriculum. This is part of a more fundamental doubt about the decentralisation of the schools system. The attempt to give a stronger steer from the centre, as reflected in the recent White Paper, does not look anywhere near enough to make the necessary improvements. As the National Institute rightly concludes, the immediate task is to raise the numerical skills of the majority of schoolchildren and to encourage practical education. There is a need for more objective testing of the attainment of individual pupils and for national agreement on core standards for 16-year-olds and at lower ages. The fact that the size of the school population is declining provides an opportunity to start on the process of reform.

WHEN the news came through last Friday that the Delaware Supreme Court had ruled against Mr. T. Boone Pickens in his latest assault on a large U.S. oil company, executives at Amoco's Chicago headquarters were practically dancing in the corridors.

"I think this derails his whole train, knocks it right off the tracks," said jubilant Mr. Raymond Koeller, the company's manager for investor relations.

Amoco has particular reason to be cheerful about Mr. Pickens' setback, since the company has been regarded by some as a potential, if difficult target for the Texan oil raider. But it can be safely assumed that Mr. Koeller was not alone in his reaction to the news from Delaware.

One week later, the U.S. oil industry is still hopeful that the 18 month campaign by Mr. Pickens to harass and dismember the industry is indeed at an end. His declared withdrawal from his takeover attempt against Unocal of California—a potentially sizeable loss—is being widely seen as General Pickens' Waterloo.

Whether Mr. Pickens is on his way to Elba, however, may not be clear for some time. Certainly the Delaware decision is a major blow coming on top of earlier blocks on the flow of bank funds to Pickens' raiders, along with poison pills and other anti-greenmail tactics.

On the other hand, Mr. Pickens is making it no less resourceful. And the very fact that oil shares are seen to be heading for another plunge, could yet give new life to his essential case. This is that so long as oil company managements fail to achieve a stock market valuation for their companies equivalent to the worth of their assets, radical ways will be found to transfer these assets to shareholders.

At the table shown, there has been a significant narrowing of the gap between market capitalisation and asset valuation as defined by the authoritative J. S. Herald figures, since the autumn of 1983 when Mr. Pickens began to prepare his attack on Gulf Oil which eventually forced Gulf into a defensive \$1.3bn merger with Chevron.

Those companies where there has been little or no change in this relationship—Mobil, Texaco and Chevron—are those which have become takeover proof by themselves making large acquisitions (Superior, Getty and Gulf respectively) and amassing large amounts of debt.

The rise in relative share values of the other companies listed owes relatively little to underlying performance—indeed the profitability of oil companies has been weak and prices and asset growth in demand started to turn down again in the fourth quarter of last year. Share prices have risen in part not only due to a "lever" but also because several companies have acted in the most direct way possible to

THE PICKENS EFFECT ON WALL STREET					
	Share price end Sep 1983	Share price as % of asset value	Asset value \$	Share price 21/5/1985	Share price as % of asset value
EXXON	38½	47	77.70	52½	68
MOBIL	31	35	88.35	31	35
TEXACO	36	36	99.95	37½	37
CHEVRON	35½	33	108.85	35½	32
AMOCO	49	48	108.45	65½	60
ARCO	46½	38	122.40	61½	50
SOLIO	51½	51	101.65	48½	48
BP	28½	47	56.05	27½	50
ROYAL DUTCH SHELL	46½	37	119.25	59½	50
UNOCAL	30	38	76.45	35½	47
PHILLIPS	34½	44	76.95	38½	50

† end 1983 figures. Source: J. S. HERALD F.T.

raise their share values, by buying large quantities of their stock.

Since July 1983, Exxon has spent \$4.2bn buying around 10 per cent of its own stock. Amoco is nearing completion of a programme to buy 30m of its own shares for around \$1.7bn.

Three weeks ago, Atlantic Richfield (Arco) took this step as a dramatic stage further by announcing that it would borrow heavily to fund a \$4bn stock repurchase programme. At the same time, Arco announced a \$1.3bn write-down, the sale of all its mineral operations except coal, withdrawal from its downstream refining and marketing operations east of the Mississippi and a cut in its capital spending from \$3.6bn to \$2.8bn this year.

"The petroleum industry is undergoing major structural changes which were not widely anticipated," said Mr. William Kieschnick, chief executive of Arco in making the announcement. The moves reflect Arco's assumption of lower crude prices in the years ahead, continued serious overcapacity in downstream operations and the need to keep the shareholders happy by raising returns per share.

Oil industry managements, however, are keen to play down the Pickens factor. They point to restructuring which began before the world had even heard of Mr. Pickens—Texaco's phase-out of its oil supply industry withdrawal from the petrol market in 19 states, for example, began five years ago.

Where Mr. Pickens has not been a first cause of change, he has been an important catalyst. No one can contest the fact that the oil industry today is a vastly different creature from the one which produced cash-rich from the price shock of the Iranian Revolution in 1978.

"We were all on a drunken binge, so the first thing we had to do was to stop drinking," says Dr. Phil Oxley, president of

Tenneco's exploration and production operations.

That binge, following so soon after the excesses which also followed the 1973-74 oil shock, landed the industry with five major problems—

● Expensive investments in businesses, from department stores to office equipment, which the oil companies proved incapable of managing effectively.

● Equally expensive invest-

ments in manning which were made at the top of the commodities boom. Four years of depression have followed, creating huge losses especially for companies with heavy exposure to copper, such as Sohio.

● A race into "synthetic" crude operations, based on forecasts of \$80 a barrel oil. Almost all of these projects are now abandoned.

● A drilling boom which by 1981 had over 4,500 rigs at work in the U.S. alone. Drilling costs soared to \$108 per foot. Today, 1,800 rigs are working, costs are down to \$70 per foot and parts of the U.S. oil supply industry are on the verge of collapse.

● Persistent and so far unshakable overcapacity in marketing and refining as investments planned in the good years came on stream in a contracting market in the early 1980s.

These conditions have bred

a new spirit of financial stringency. "We are going to look at every business, every part of a business. We're going to examine every piece—just about service station to service station," says Mr. Allen Murray, recently named chief executive of Mobil.

Mobil has brought in investment bankers Goldman Sachs to help with this process and has just announced that it will sell (at the cost of a \$500m

"We were all on a drunken binge... so we had to stop drinking"



BIG OIL ADJUSTS

write-off) Montgomery Ward, the department store chain it bought for \$1.5bn eight years ago.

Exxon has done the same with its office equipment division and most of the mining divisions have also been pared right back or sold. Arco is selling Anaconda and Amoco is spinning off to shareholders its loss-making minerals activities.

This retrenchment is only the most superficial of the changes going on inside the large oil companies. They are also shedding people (Exxon's payroll has fallen by 16 per cent in four years) and overhauling the management of their mainline businesses.

The most serious problems are downstream, where Texaco, in the last three years, has lost \$800m on refining, marketing and tankers. The company's answer has been to close 10 of



Philip Thompson

its 25 refineries in the U.S. and Europe and to get rid of most of its tankers. It has also transformed its petrol marketing structure by taking action—either significantly expanding or pulling out of activities in areas where it felt its market share was too low.

All companies predict a further shakeout of capacity in the next three or four years, although it is rarer for them to acknowledge the dangers posed by selling this plant to independent operators, capable of buying spot gasoline on depressed spot markets and using it to undercut the integrated companies.

Upstream, there is more room for disagreement as to the wisest course. At one end of the spectrum, Arco has signalled its view that falling oil prices mean there is less justification for heavy exploration spending. As Mr. John McKinley, chairman of Texaco, expects, even some of the larger companies will suffer setbacks.

"A lot of the smaller companies—therefore 17,000 of them—will not be around to see the 1990s oil boom, if it comes. This sector is still badly over-capacity," says one Houston banker who, like his colleagues, is operating with a new stringency since the last spate of bad energy loans in 1983.

Should oil prices fall more sharply than the industry expects, even some of the larger companies will suffer setbacks. "A \$5 drop in the oil price would wipe out Texaco's earnings," says Mr. Maxwell. According to Mr. Nicandros, it would take a catastrophic drop in oil prices—\$10 a barrel, says Mr. Nicandros—to get the industry back on its feet.

"But it starts getting cata" at around \$20," he laughs. "Not," he says, "does the prospect worry him. It could be dealt with by cutting spending, which would in time have the effect of stimulating a boom in the commodity market called oil to which many oilmen now feel they belong."

"We are living with such large uncertainties that really we are almost comfortable with them. So long as you are capable of re-adjusting, I think you will do reasonably well. It's planning in uncertainty and getting good at it—that's more important than anything else."

senses that in the 1990s the well will rise again, as shown in the production is absorbed.

It is on the basis of this conviction that the big companies in the industry are continuing to pour billions of dollars into frontier exploration, in spite of disappointing results in the past five years. Although they can hardly afford to ignore Wall Street, the message to ease up on exploration is a hard one to swallow.

In that sense, the most successful companies at present face the greatest uncertainty. Shell and Exxon—the former restrained by cultural and geographic reasons in the share repurchase game—are bound to continue seeking major "And on the same tier—but facing a different direction—Texaco, Chevron and Mobil. These companies will all be pre-occupied in the next three years paying off debt from their acquisition. They will not face the Shell/Exxon problems of surplus cash until the early 1990s and, should oil prices fall further than anyone in the industry seriously forecasts, they may not have the problem at all.

Outside these groups, fortune may be good. Although they escaped Mr. Pickens, Phillips and Unocal have done so at huge cost to their balance sheets and face major cuts in operations.

"A lot of the smaller companies—therefore 17,000 of them—will not be around to see the 1990s oil boom, if it comes. This sector is still badly over-capacity," says one Houston banker who, like his colleagues, is operating with a new stringency since the last spate of bad energy loans in 1983.

Should oil prices fall more sharply than the industry expects, even some of the larger companies will suffer setbacks. "A \$5 drop in the oil price would wipe out Texaco's earnings," says Mr. Maxwell. According to Mr. Nicandros, it would take a catastrophic drop in oil prices—\$10 a barrel, says Mr. Nicandros—to get the industry back on its feet.

"But it starts getting cata" at around \$20," he laughs. "Not," he says, "does the prospect worry him. It could be dealt with by cutting spending, which would in time have the effect of stimulating a boom in the commodity market called oil to which many oilmen now feel they belong."

"We are living with such large uncertainties that really we are almost comfortable with them. So long as you are capable of re-adjusting, I think you will do reasonably well. It's planning in uncertainty and getting good at it—that's more important than anything else."

Further articles will examine individual corporate strategies.

## More moves in store?

"Bob Thornton deserves a knighted for getting his share price as high as it is. If he actually manages to sell Debenhams for more than \$400m, he should probably have a peerage." That was the view of another department store chief, not far from Oxford Street from Thornton's head office, last week.

Thornton had just floated the idea that he would cap any ordinary bid with a \$500m management buy-out—by far the largest financing of its kind yet mooted in Britain.

And last week's denial from Burton group had some people in the market thinking that Debenhams had finally escaped. For a few minutes, the share price dived.

But yesterday Burton was back again, with Sir Terence Conran—a former Debenhams' chairman—now apparently throwing in the full force of Habitat's style and ideas machine from the outset for an option to take up to 20 per cent of Debenhams' equity later on.

Though Thornton was saying nothing definite about his buy-out plans yesterday, it may still be premature to talk of Debenhams as the sitting target implied by Warburg's choice of "duck" in its code name for the store a few weeks back.

Thornton found that funny enough at the time to have the symbol woven into some silk ties.

And yesterday he had to end our telephone chat when a message came through: "Do you mind if I stop and talk to this chap?" he asked. "He's got a thousand million pounds."

Pace-maker  
 General Dynamics' decision to head-hunt Stanley C. Pace from rival TRW to succeed David S. Lewis in the hot spot as chairman of the largest U.S. defence contractor, looks a shrewd move.

## Men and Matters



"I suppose he'll go and build his glass tower in the green belt now."

engineer, knows his way around the corridors of corporate power and the backrooms of the Pentagon where he was a senior procurement and production officer after a stint in the U.S. airforce.

After quitting the military, Pace joined TRW in 1954 as a sales manager but climbed quickly to president and chief operating officer in 1977, second only to TRW's erstwhile chairman, Rubin Mettler.

In January, as part of an orderly succession at the Cleveland-based company, Pace moved to vice-chairman, making way for 47-year-old Joseph T. Gorman to become president.

At General Dynamics, his first job before moving into Lewis's large shoes, will be to straighten out the overhead accounting and contract procedures—systems which have got the St Louis group into trouble with Pentagon auditors and Congressional investigators.

## Rothschild returns

Baron Guy de Rothschild—like Albin Chandon, the former chairman of ZEP-Aquitaine—has obviously detected a changing mood in France. He said in London yesterday that he would probably return to Paris after a four-year self-imposed exile in New York, next year.

When the 164-year-old Banque Rothschild was nationalised by President Mitterrand's government in 1981, Baron de Rothschild, 76, declared: "From now on I am on strike."

In a scathing column in Le Monde, before leaving for the U.S., he said to be treated "as a Jew under Petain and a pariah under Mitterrand is as much as I can take."

In London yesterday for a Foyie's lunch to celebrate the UK publication of his autobiography, The Whims of Fortune—a best-seller in France—Baron de Rothschild said he had left France for professional rather than political reasons.

"I did not want the international financial community to think that we were no longer on the map," he said. "I thought I could reaffirm and demonstrate in New York that we were as alive, as full of energy and will, as the English half of the family."

Before an audience that included Lord Weinstock, Lord Bessborough and Lord Zuckerman, Baron de Rothschild said that the investment bank recently founded in France by his son, David, would in a year or two become "a Rothschild institution... probably known as Rothschild Freres... and marking the rebirth" of the family's banking presence.

## Cafe society

For the first time, members of the two families which between them have run London's Cafe Royal for 20 years will sit down together for a dinner there tonight.

## Silence is golden

Card pinned to the coat of an elderly street singer in London's West End: "Hush money accepted."

## Observer

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## Dangers of a crash landing

**By Anatole Kaletsky**

As one would expect, the fall

After correcting for "round-tripping" and other distortions Greenwell's analysts suggest that the true annualised growth rate of Sterling M3 over the last

The sterling depreciation came through into import prices, and perhaps also into the prices of domestic producers competing with imports, more

ed-administered prices, such as those of the nationalised industries and rents and rates.

If we start on the labour costs side, we know that under-

much faster than even the most optimistic of current estimates (which are well up to its long-term average growth before the

Banham, Publicity Department,  
Financial Times, Bracken  
House, Cannon Street, London  
EC4, price £1.50, including  
postage.

of competition can automatically guide laissez faire economy towards full-employment, and it explains why classical economists have never managed to overcome Keynes's theoretical

In other words, the dollar is still a bubble, and it is subject to economic gravity by powerful speculative pressures; at DM 3.07, the dollar seems almost a victim from underlying economic forces; at DM 3.47 and as it will still be at DM 2.77. The longer this continues, the more the U.S. economy will be hurt. The longer this will be the dollar's ultimate fall. The last time there was a bubble comparable in its impact on the world economy was today's speculation in the dollar was 1929 on Wall Street. That time there was blood on the streets before there was all over. The same may have to happen again, at least in a significant way. If the speculators are convinced the dollar bubble has burst.

Economic factors do play a part in encouraging governments to "liberalise" their social policies, particularly when it is recognised that such policies are damaging to the financial well-being of the state. Recent reforms in the ownership policies of certain Soviet bloc countries are evidence of this.

the lay client in all cases instead of the present rule that, to have for dock cases, they have to appear in court if they are not represented. I have been briefed by a solicitor. In other words there would be no fusion. If past experience is anything to go by, the Bar would be able to cope with the increase in 1967 solicitors were allowed to do their own undefended divorces; but if they did the work which was formerly done by the Bar, they would be remunerated as the Bar. So they are threatened a boycott of dock cases. The gross rates for the (bar) solicitors' rates were totally uneconomic. (If my memory serves me right, in 1951 if a barrister spent, say, 1 day if a solicitor did his divorce he would get 14 gns; while a solicitor would save 5 times his hourly rate of £15-20 per hour.) (with the aid of legal aid) can act as a barrister. So if a person was suing a drug company his solicitors just look up the barrister who is counselled by drug companies in the

**poll**

**From the Deputy Chief Executive, Milk Marketing Board**

Sir,—A report in your issue of May 15 referred to a current row among milk producers in England and Wales, on a proposed change in the Milk Marketing Board's voting and electoral system. It was implied by the Farmers' Union of Wales that the Board has deliberately put the question in an "inconspicuous and misleading" way.

May I make it clear that this is a formal poll, being conducted not by the Board but by the Milk Marketing Board returning officer appointed by the Minister of Agriculture. The rules for the conduct of such polls,

**Christopher G. Glover**  
2-3, Cursitor Street,

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## UK rates 'likely to stay at high level'

By Max Willkinson in London

BRITISH interest rates are likely to remain close to present high levels for some time, because of excessive growth of the money supply, a senior Bank of England official said yesterday.

Mr Tony Coleby, assistant director of the Bank, told a parliamentary committee that part of the reason for the 4½ percentage point rise in interest rates in January was that, in terms of the money supply objectives, "the situation was not under control".

The rise in rates was intended to bring monetary growth back on target, but he said: "We have not yet got any convincing evidence that that has been achieved."

He added: "Until we have got more convincing evidence that domestic monetary conditions have been brought back under control, we are bound to be rather reserved about the pace at which interest rates might come down."

This was the strongest statement yet of the authorities' concern about the implications of the latest money supply figures published last week. They showed that sterling M3, the broad measure of money which includes bank deposits, rose at an annual rate of 19 per cent in the three months to April, more than twice the maximum permitted increase for the year as a whole.

Mr Coleby was giving evidence to a Treasury and Civil Service subcommittee on the subject of the European Monetary System.

He said the authorities policy response to the monetary expansion and steep fall of the exchange rate in January might not have been needed to be so severe if the pound had been in the exchange rate mechanism (ERM) of the EMS.

On the "most optimistic" assumption that the markets had believed the authorities were determined to keep sterling within a permitted band in the ERM, he thought the rise in interest rates "might not have needed to be so large."

The rise would probably have come earlier, and could have been reversed sooner, he said.

Earlier, Mr Michael Balfour, also an assistant director at the Bank, told the committee that he thought the pound was overvalued against the D-Mark at the present rate of DM 3.9.

However, in answers to questions he pointed out that sterling had moved by about 10 per cent against the German currency since the beginning of the year. He did not necessarily believe sterling had been overvalued at its lowest rate of around DM 3.50.

**Economic Viewpoint, Page 27**

## Strasbourg MPs win key judgment

Continued from Page 1

al period of 12 years after its signature in 1957, the court said.

The court did not adopt the proposal of the Dutch Government that it should transform freedom of transport services from a Treaty objective into directly applicable law, enforceable in national courts. It has, therefore, stopped short of giving the European Parliament legislative powers by the back door.

Yesterday's judgment is moral victory for the European Parliament but impossible to enforce. The council has been told that it is its duty to agree but it can hardly be made to do so.

The council remains free to deal with most of the 14 pending specific transport policy proposals of the Commission as it pleases.

The Commission's proposals of two "observation systems," one for the cross-border movement of goods by road, rail and inland waterways within the Community and the other for traffic with certain third countries, can now be written off as total losses.

## Britain releases Thai aid in bid to win bus deal

By Christian Tyler, Trade Editor, in London

BRITISH ministers have approved the release of aid money to Thailand to help a UK consortium led by Leyland Bus to clinch a £365m (£462m) contract in Bangkok.

The Thai have been told that Britain will match an offer made unexpectedly last month by Mr Wilfried Martens, the Belgian Prime Minister, in support of rival bidders Van Hool, an early front-runner for the big project.

The exact amount of money that would come from the UK's aid and trade provision is not known, but it is likely to be less than £20m (£25.3m).

The Belgian offer is reported to be an interest-free loan of more than Bfr 1bn (£16.4m) at current rates, plus an aid grant for training purposes of Bfr 300m.

Early in the bidding the countries with manufacturers represented in the race agreed not to offer aid to help their exporters. Belgium's breaking of ranks allowed Britain to follow suit without infringing its declared policy of matching, but not initiating soft finance for overseas projects.

The decision, possibly taken at Cabinet level, could remove one of

the remaining hurdles that the British consortium must clear before the contract is signed to reorganise and re-equip Bangkok's over-stretched bus service.

Among the hurdles are the need for a Thai Government guarantee to underpin an internationally syndicated loan to finance the much-indebted Bangkok Mass Transit Authority.

If approved by the Thai Cabinet and successfully negotiated, the deal would be one of the biggest export orders ever won by British companies.

Mr Paul Channon, Britain's Trade Minister, is planning to visit Thailand at the end of next month as part of an Asian tour for what some see as a belated gesture of support for the UK companies.

Civil servants in London were at pains yesterday to maintain that Britain was acting in self-defence by dipping into the aid budget for Thailand.

One senior official said it was a clear case of British companies winning a race on merit and then being "unduly prejudiced by predatory financing."

Officials seemed anxious to demonstrate that Britain was playing by the book, in the wake of strong ministerial criticism of Japan for offering soft loans to Turkey for the building of a second Bosphorus bridge.

Informal rules of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development say that aid is only fair if the aid covers at least 25 per cent of the cost of the project. In the case of the Bangkok buses that would imply a far bigger grant than Belgium and Britain are offering.

But one view taken in London is that the 25 per cent rule can no longer hold when one party has already broken the rules of the game.

The British consortium consists of Leyland Bus, part of BL's Land Rover-Leyland commercial vehicles division; the National Bus Company, also state-owned; and MVA Consultants.

Its proposal is to supply 4,500 buses, including 1,450 double-deckers, build 24 bus depots and provide training and management reorganisation.

**Ozal defends Bosphorus decision, Page 5**

## Volvo plans to sell its shares over the post office counter

By Kevin Done, Nordic Correspondent, in Gothenburg

VOLVO is to take the unprecedented step of promoting the sale of its shares across the counter at Sweden's 2,200 post offices.

The group is already the most widely owned Swedish corporation with around 180,000 shareholders, but the total has stagnated in recent years and the group is anxious to promote the Volvo stock as a "people's share" in Sweden.

Mr Pehr Gyllenhammar, Volvo's chairman, said the new system would be cheaper for the investor than buying shares through a bank or a broker, especially in small amounts.

"I have always said it would be good to be able to buy Volvo shares at the corner tobacconist," said Mr Gyllenhammar. "People bet on the

pools there and spend a lot of money. We will have a national distribution network of 2,200 post offices as well as 2,700 rural postmen selling Volvo shares."

The scheme will begin on June 5 and potential share buyers will be able to invest even in small amounts, buying only part of a single share.

Individual share accounts will be administered by PKBanken, the state-owned commercial bank, which is closely allied with the Swedish Post Office. Dividend payments will be directly invested in the purchase of further shares.

Costs under the scheme, the Post Office Share Service, include an initial Skr 25 (£2.82) fee to open a share saving account, with a 3 per cent

commission on amounts invested under Skr 2,000 and 1 per cent above this level.

Once the initial application and the share purchase is made, the postal investor will receive a share ownership receipt and account number.

Share purchases will be made on a monthly basis through the stock exchange by PKBanken. The bank will administer dividend payments, new share issues and similar matters for shareholders.

Cash from the sale of shares can be raised immediately across the counter or from rural postmen.

Mr Bertil Zachrisson, head of the post office, said the new system would make owning shares as easy as saving in a bank account.

## British stores group faces £492m bid

Continued from Page 1

cash for every five ordinary Debenhams shares. The new shares represent 31.8 per cent of Burton's expanded share capital. Burton owns a 0.7 per cent stake in Debenhams, while Habitat/Mothercare, advised by Morgan Grenfell, does not own any Debenhams shares.

Burton has been in talks for three weeks with Habitat/Mothercare which, itself, tried to reach an agreed merger with Debenhams in January. Last week, however, Burton said it did not believe that the stores group was worth its then market capitalisation of £450m.

The apparent discrepancy between that statement to the Stock Exchange and yesterday's bid was defended by Burton's advisers, S.G. Warburg. Mr Derek Higgs, a Warburg director, said that the precise nature of Habitat/Mothercare's involvement was only agreed early yesterday morning.

Mr Ralph Halpern, Burton's chairman, and Sir Terence Conran, chairman of Habitat/Mothercare, said their groups enjoyed complementary styles in fashion that might transform Debenhams' stores.

	Burton group	Debenhams	Habitat/Mothercare
Year to:	1/9/84	31/1/85	25/3/84
Turnover	£415.8m	£278.0m	£275.4m
Pre-tax profits	£38.4m	£20.7m	£20.1m
Total Stores	957	69	521
Sales area:	2.3m sq.ft.	4.5m sq.ft.	2.9m sq.ft.

FF estimate  
Excluding Richard Shops

"By our standards, Debenhams' performance has been a disaster," said Mr Halpern. He said the store group's profits and dividends had grown "at a snail's pace," over the past five years.

The new partners intend to introduce a new concept in Debenhams' stores called "the Galleria format." It will concentrate on style in clothing and homeware, with Burton aiming to capture more customers in the 25 to 35 age group. At present, it has a higher market share in the 15 to 25 years age group.

Both Sir Terence and Mr Halpern said they hoped to co-operate with Harris Queensway, the electricals and furnishing retailer, which occupies store space under a joint venture with Debenhams.

Harris Queensway said it had no intention of becoming involved in the bid battle. "We are not department stores people, we are specialist retailers," said Mr Peter Davis, the deputy chairman. "I am satisfied that our joint venture companies are well protected." Harris Queensway shares closed last night at 238p, up 12p on the day.

## Ohio clears takeover of thrifts

By Terry Dodsworth in New York

THE Ohio legislature has finally cleared the way to allow two of the large New York banking groups to take over all thrift institutions in the state, thus effectively bringing the crisis in the region's savings bank industry to an end.

The Senate passed a bill allowing the entry of Chemical Bank and Chase Manhattan to the local market only by a wafer-thin 17-16 vote. Intense pressure was brought on legislators by depositors in the Ohio thrifts who were alarmed by a previous senate decision against the New York banks.

As a result of the decision, Chemical will acquire Home State Savings and Loan of Cincinnati, the savings bank at the centre of the crisis which led to the closure of thrifts across the state for several days in March. The state will provide up to \$125.3m to facilitate the takeover by meeting losses.

Chase has already purchased two thrifts and has agreed to acquire another four.

Both the New York banks will be allowed to turn the thrifts they have acquired into fully fledged commercial banks. As a result, they have gained entry to a market which has excluded banks from outside the state in the past.

Chemical is to reopen all 33 of Home State's branches.

Reuter adds: Chemical Bank named Mr William Duncan, formerly senior vice-president in charge of worldwide consumer lending, to the post of president of the newly formed Chemical Bank Ohio unit.

## Trade and inflation setback for Paris

By David Housego in Paris

THE FRENCH Government's claims of success for its austerity measures are being put under strain by the continuing run of poor trade and inflation figures.

The announcement that the seasonally adjusted trade deficit for April rose to Ffr 4.2bn (£448m), gives a cumulative deficit for the first four months of Ffr 15.1bn. This compares with a revised deficit of Ffr 25.1bn for 1984 and a government objective of bringing the trade account back into balance by the end of this year. Unofficial forecasts for the current account, which the Government had hoped would be back in surplus this year, now vary from equilibrium to a deficit of Ffr 10bn.

At the same time, a 0.7 per cent increase in the consumer price index in April resulted in a quickening of the year-on-year inflation rate to 7.5 per cent over the February to April period.

Both the Government and the foreign exchange markets are now anxiously waiting for the May trade and inflation figures to see whether the setback of the first four months was due to exceptional factors, such as the cold spell and the rebuilding of all stocks, or whether it reflects a more worrying trend.

So far, there has been no impact on the franc, which is being sustained within the EMS by high real interest rates in France and by the continuing strength of the dollar. But forecasts of a break down in the franc in the second half of this year or after the March 1986 elections, have recently sprung from such divergent quarters as the Deutsche Bank and Ipeccard, the private French forecasting unit.

Reflecting the waning competitiveness of the franc, exports in nominal terms have remained virtually stagnant since the summer at about Ffr 75bn a month.

M. Pierre Bérégovoy, the French Finance Minister, attempted last week to give a psychological boost to the franc by announcing that France would repay from its reserves \$600m of its foreign debt. But the measure has been criticised in monetary circles as risky because the reserves have been built up through capital, rather than through a surplus on France's current account.

The more disappointing trade and inflation performance thus reinforces the prudence of the Bank of France in responding to pressure from M Bérégovoy to lower French interest rates further. The Bank is worried that even with rates falling elsewhere, too hasty a move below the psychological 10 per cent threshold could put pressure on the franc.

Government strategy had been based on bringing inflation and the trade account under control in the first half of the year, before the impact of tax cuts begins to swell consumer purchasing power in the autumn. The increase in household incomes, projected in the budget, could add to the import bill later in the year unless a fall in the dollar substantially reduces import prices.

The Ffr 4.2bn seasonally adjusted deficit in April was the result of a 2.2 per cent drop in exports from the previous month to Ffr 17.6bn and a 2.2 per cent rise in imports to Ffr 21.8bn. A major adverse factor was a jump in the energy deficit to Ffr 19.3bn from a monthly average of Ffr 15.5bn in 1984.

The average Ffr 4m deficit for the first four months is close to the average figure for the same period in 1984, which was then followed by a sharp improvement. The Government is clearly hoping that the same pattern will be repeated this year - especially as the figures should be boosted by Airbus sales.

## THE LEX COLUMN

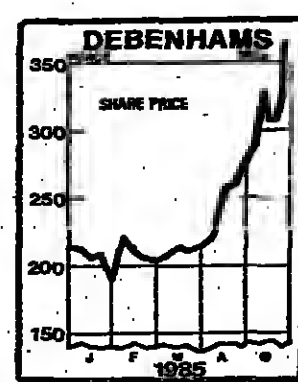
## Burton plays to the Galleria

The City has rarely been so convinced of anything as that Burton would eventually produce an offer for Debenhams. On Monday most people in the equity market were prepared to put their money behind Wednesday morning and 325p a share - and they were right. Now that the bid is on the table it surely qualifies as one of the worst kept secrets in the history of corporate finance.

But there is one ingredient in the proposed offer which had been kept well under cover; the participation of Sir Terence Conran and Habitat/Mothercare, in something only one step away from a consortium bid. Habitat is bringing to the deal an intriguing idea, the so-called "Galleria concept," which looks as if it could transform the success of the two specialist retailers into the department stores, opening up dead space on upper floors and using the highly focused marketing style of their existing chains to dramatise the goods on offer.

It seems fair to assume that even without the Habitat involvement, Burton would have been thinking along similar lines, having already peopled some larger trading sites with families of its various Burton chains - Top Shop, Perkins, Top Man and so on. But the Conran presence could save Burton the trouble of getting to grips with house-wares, and bring in an acknowledged flair in store design, to give coherence to the whole theatrical production.

All the same, it was surely the unexpected opportunity to back the market's two most glamorous retailers at once which made the offer go down so well. Underwriting the cash element in the offer presented no difficulty at all - scarcely surprising, given a market reaction which put 44p on the Burton share price, to 902p, and raised the value of Burton's bid to 351p per Debenhams share. On existing market forecasts for both higher and lower, there should be no dilution of Burton's earnings next year should it win control. And although Habitat's financial involvement is at present restricted to an option on 20 per cent of Debenhams (exercisable next year), its shares were some 6 per cent higher on the news. Even Harris Queensway, whose contractual position with Debenhams and attitude to the offer remain unclear, was a beneficiary - up 12p to 238p.



The chances of a successful defence should not be written off. Debenhams' management has had a long time to prepare itself, and has talked of mounting a buyout at a price £100m higher than the current proposition that the City wants to buy.

### Bass & Whitbread

Bass has for so long presented the impression of effortless sovereignty that it is no surprise to see it earning as much for its shareholders in six months as Whitbread does in a year. Yet yesterday's market responded perversely to their trading results, marking Bass down 4p and Whitbread up 8p; and even allowing for different year ends, the two stocks are rated not far apart on future earnings.

At a time when the beer sector could not be less fashionable, both groups have sailed through a flat market on the strength of their larger brands, which now take up over 40 per cent of their production. Yet even here Bass retains the edge. While Whitbread in the second half to March had to struggle to regain market share lost partly through the closure of Luton brewery, Bass managed to increase its trading margin, and market share once again in the six months to April.

Bass cannot go on adding market share to its present 21 per cent indefinitely, yet, having started earlier than Whitbread - is correspondingly limited. Bass remains as highly geared to the beer market as the smallest regional brewer, but the caution has restrained diversification into leisure, let alone the U.S. The bad weather that spoiled the National Hunt season for Coral's and difficulties with amusement

machines merely pointed up the excellent performance by Whitbread's retailing division.

With a heavy cash overhang from last year depressing interest payments to a mere £7m in the half, Bass is clearly eyeing a U.S. acquisition. But it is likely to be more cautious than Whitbread, whose purchase of Buckingham merely freed an employee to remove two brands. Equally Bass is so skilled at marginal investment that it is a sure bet to profit if and when flexible licensing hours open opportunities for parts of its estate.

### Shell

The ebb and flow of currencies in the first quarter of this year left some of Shell's divisions dry but others quite submerged. Historic cost net income (£1.08bn) was higher than expected through stock values swelled by the strong dollar, while the replacement cost result of \$322m was slightly disappointing. Trading results from everything but mining were encouraging, yet a weaker dollar led to currency losses of £102m. Mildly confused, the market decided to play safe, leaving Royal Dutch shares unchanged, but marking Shell Transport and Trading down 5p to 715p.

Upstream, Shell was helped not just by the dollar, but also by the freezing European winter - gas sales volumes rose 14 per cent outside North America. With slightly firmer gas prices, the first full-quarter contributions from Danish and Australian gas, and higher equity crude production, exploration and production earnings were up 28 per cent to £347m. Downstream, Shell, like BP, benefited from a weaker dollar in March, and margins are continuing to improve. In chemicals, prices are being squeezed - but there remains a real black spot in mining, which threw up a £50m write-off, mainly for closure costs, and a £20m trading loss.

The metals picture looks no less grim for the rest of the year, with not a hint of firmer prices. Nor are chemicals likely to match their bumper performance of 1984 unless the dollar soars again. Even though oil production will be stronger this year, the prospect for prices is so uncertain that Shell's shares - along with its competitors - are unlikely to do much more than move sideways.

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Alexandria	10	18	25
Amman	10	18	25
Ankara	10	18	25
Baghdad	10	18	25
Bahra	10	18	25
Bangkok	10	18	25
Bombay	10	18	25
Buenos Aires	10	18	25
Calcutta	10	18	25
Cairo	10	18	25
Cardiff	10	18	25
Cebu	10	18	25
Dhaka	10	18	25
Dublin	10	18	25
Edinburgh	10	18	25
Geneva	10	18	25
Hong Kong	10	18	25
Imbabra	10	18	25
Jakarta	10	18	25
Jeddah	10	18	25
Kuala Lumpur	10	18	25
London	10	18	25
Lyons	10	18	25
Manila	10	18	25
Moscow	10	18	25
Mumbai	10	18	25
Nairobi	10	18	25
Paris	10	18	25
Rangoon	10	18	25
Riyadh	10	18	25
Singapore	10	18	25
Sofia	10	18	25
Taipei	10	18	25
Tel Aviv	10	18	25
Tokyo	10	18	25
Yokohama	10	18	25

## General Dynamics chairman quits

Continued from Page 1

namics will continue to serve our country, its allies and other customers."

Key events leading up to yesterday's developments included:

● February 23: David S. Lewis, General Dynamics' chairman, goes face to face with some of the company's critics in a fiery congressional hearing. Claims the company is being "badly maligned by forces beyond our control." Says the company is not guilty of any wrongdoing.

● March 5: Caspar Weinberger, U.S. Defence Secretary, suspends all administrative payments to GD

for 30 days while allegations of billing irregularities are investigated.

● March 25: Mr Lewis says GD will voluntarily reduce its overhead claims by \$20m.

● April 3: Congressional investigators claim GD kept "two sets of books" in the 1970s to disguise submarine cost overruns. The company vigorously denies the allegation.

● April 4: Pentagon auditors accuse GD of overcharging a total of \$244m on military contracts over the past decade.

● April 5: Pentagon extends payment freeze and withholds \$124m as part of scheme to recoup the al-

leged overcharges.

● April 18: GD describes bribery allegations made by P. Taks Velliotis, a fugitive former senior GD executive at the centre of a series of allegations against the company, as "malicious and libellous".

● May 21: John Lehman, Navy Secretary, bans two major GD divisions from new contracts as part of a string of economic sanctions against the company.

● May 22: GD announces Mr Lewis will step down as chairman before next year and will be replaced by Mr Stanley Pace.

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## SECTION II - COMPANIES & CAPITAL MARKETS

# FINANCIAL TIMES

Thursday May 23 1985

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### WestLB starts year strongly

By John Davies in Frankfurt

WESTDEUTSCHE Landesbank (WestLB), West Germany's largest publicly owned bank, expects its operating earnings to provide another sturdy performance this year. It also believes it will no longer be burdened by losses and risks at Deutsche Anlagengesellschaft (DAI), the troubled leasing concern in which it is the largest single shareholder.

WestLB began this year strongly with its group operating profits, including the result of trading on its own account, reaching DM 214m (\$144m) in the first quarter, up 10 per cent on the same period last year.

Herr Friedel Neuber, the chief executive, said that even on a cautious assessment of interest rates and economic trends, operating profits this year should be very close to the high results of the last two years.

WestLB made group operating profits of DM 1.32m last year, compared with DM 1.4m in 1983, but again omitted a dividend because of high provisions for risks. The group's risk provisions and write-offs amounted to DM 1.1bn last year on top of DM 1.2bn in 1983.

The bank last paid a dividend to its shareholders - the state government, savings banks and other public authorities in North Rhine-Westphalia - on its 1979 results.

Herr Neuber said that WestLB's total risk provisions for DAI, including new provisions made last year, amounted to more than DM 600m. The bank believed now it had covered all foreseeable risks arising from DAI, in which it has a 30 per cent stake.

WestLB's group assets rose 42 per cent to DM 141.5bn last year.

### Crocker clears Midland plan

By Our Financial Staff

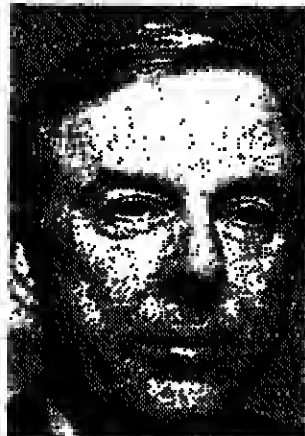
SHAREHOLDERS in Crocker National, the West Coast U.S. bank, have approved a proposal for Midland Bank of the UK to acquire the 43 per cent it does not already own.

Midland's shareholders are to vote on the proposal in London today. Midland has held a majority stake in Crocker since 1981.

Under the terms, Crocker shareholders will receive 0.54 Crocker preferred shares for each Crocker share held.

William Hall in Los Angeles looks at how T. Boone Pickens met his match

## Unocal celebrates victory without champagne



Mr. T. Boone Pickens

FIRST TIME visitors to Unocal's headquarters in downtown Los Angeles are left in little doubt about who has been running the company for the last couple of decades.

In the lobby, filled with plaques, paintings and oil industry memorabilia, commemorating great moments in the company's 95-year history, one name stands out, that of Mr. Fred Hartley, Unocal's 68-year-old chief executive.

Whether he is shaking the hand of some long forgotten foreign potentate at the opening of a Unocal refinery overseas or dedicating an extension to the company's Fred L. Hartley research centre, there is no doubt who has been running the company for the last 20 years.

This week's defeat of Mr. T. Boone Pickens, probably the most feared corporate raider on Wall Street, who had been plotting to take over Unocal, is being hailed as one of Fred Hartley's finer moments.

He could be forgiven, argue some of his admirers, if he added Boone Pickens's scalp to his list of trophies in Unocal's lobby. It has been a bitter and bruising battle.

Mr. Hartley has always been regarded as one of the tougher leaders of the U.S. oil industry. But his stature within the more conservative parts of the industry has grown enormously during the three-month battle for control of his company.

For the first time since the recent

takeover wave hit the oil patch, a major U.S. oil company has shown that it is possible, with a little outside help, to stand up and defeat a determined corporate raider. This has done wonders for morale within the oil industry where Mr. Pickens's name is anathema.

Unlike other recent oil industry takeover battles where the oil men have been reluctant to challenge Mr. Pickens's well oiled publicity machine, Mr. Hartley has stood his ground and fought hard, and sometimes dirty, to demolish Mr. Pickens's attractive short-term financial arguments.

He was helped by the fact that Unocal's performance over the medium term has been better than most. Its shareholders have received an average annual rate of return - including stock appreciation and dividends - of 15 per cent over the last 25 years. By contrast, shareholders in the four big international U.S. oil companies received an average 11 per cent return on their investment.

Nevertheless, this sort of performance was not enough to maintain the support of Unocal's fickle institutional shareholders, who have done very well by riding on Mr. Pickens's coat tails during his pursuit of companies like Gulf Oil, Phillips Petroleum and Cities Services.

Mr. Hartley started as the underdog in the contest, but he has been quick to exploit his advantages. When he found out that Security Pacific, his main banker, was back-

turn against corporate raiders like Mr. Pickens.

The Delaware decision, supporting Unocal's right to exclude Mr. Pickens from participating in its buyback of around a third of its shares, was a cruel blow for Mr. Pickens, who likened it to having bulldozers clear the playing field during the middle of a game.

"We had players on the field when they brought the bulldozers in," said Mr. Pickens earlier this week. "Until then it was a very good contest."

Within hours of last Friday's court decision Mr. Pickens was suing for peace. If Unocal had gone ahead and excluded all 23.7m of Mr. Pickens's Unocal shares from its buyback offer Mr. Pickens would have faced an immediate paper loss of around \$300m on his \$1.1bn investment in Unocal.

In the event, Unocal has agreed to buy back a third of Mr. Pickens's shares for \$72 per share in return for his agreeing to a 25-year "standstill" agreement on future takeovers and tough conditions on how he can dispose of his 13.8 per cent stake in the company.

Following Unocal's decision to go ahead with its offer to buy back slightly more than a third of its shares from the rest of Unocal's shareholders the price of the remaining shares dropped by more than \$10.

Mr. Pickens says that he is about breaking even on his investment in

Unocal, which cost an average \$48 per share but admits that a lot will depend on how Unocal's share price moves over the next year when he is effectively locked into the company.

He will receive \$19.2m in dividends on his remaining 16m Unocal shares but this is far less than the estimated \$75m a year financing costs.

Analysts believe that Mr. Pickens could lose close to \$100m on his abortive bid for Unocal. And while the losses are high, the biggest setback for Mr. Pickens is the damage it has done to his reputation on Wall Street, where he appeared able at one stage to raise billions of dollars at very short notice.

Wall Street and its lawyers are still mulling the implications of the Delaware decision. The majority view is that it is an important setback for Mr. Pickens and his ilk, but, as one influential money manager warned, it would be dangerous to write the obituaries of the corporate raiders on the basis of that decision, which is very specific to Unocal. "Their ingenuity is legendary," he said.

Back in Los Angeles, some oil industry leaders are lavishing praise on Mr. Hartley. Dr. Armand Hammer, the 88-year-old chief executive of Occidental Petroleum, told his company's annual meeting on Tuesday that Mr. Hartley "deserves a Nobel Prize for his courage and determination to ward off an attack

by raiders. This will send a signal to all future raiders."

But as the dust settles, oil industry chiefs believe that the only real winner in this contest was the combative Mr. Hartley who gambled his company to stay independent.

It has not gone unnoticed that Dillon Read and Goldman Sachs, Unocal's advisers, stand to make \$25m in fees for ensuring that Unocal remains independent. If it had been taken over they would have earned considerably less.

Mr. Craig Schwerdt, a Los Angeles oil analyst, describes it as "a victory without the champagne." The company was forced to do many of the things it said it would never do to stay independent. It will have to borrow an extra \$40m and its financial gearing will change from one of the most conservative in the industry to one of the most aggressive, with shareholder funds of less than \$2bn supporting long-term debt of close to \$3bn.

It has been forced to distribute some of its most attractive properties to its shareholders and it will have to sell assets if it wishes to remain viable. Unlike Atlantic Richfield, which decided to restructure itself voluntarily, Unocal has been forced to restructure itself under duress. Like Phillips Petroleum, which suffered a similar fate in its bid to stay independent, Unocal's long-term financial flexibility has been seriously impaired. The only real winner seems to be Fred Hartley.

### Uddeholm to pay first dividend for 10 years

By David Brown in Stockholm

UDDEHOLM SWEDEN, one of the world's leading manufacturers of tooling steel, expects 1985 operating results of "well over" SKr 200m (\$22.5m) and expects to pay a dividend for the first time in a decade, says Mr. Sven-Ake Johansson, the president.

Uddeholm, currently the target of an "SKr 30m" takeover bid by the AGA industrial gas group, has extensive liquid and other assets.

The group's hydropower holdings and tooling operations continued to generate higher profits in the wake of an extensive restructuring, and "significant improvements" are expected in net financial income, shareholders were told.

Gambro, the world's leading manufacturer of kidney dialysis equipment, reports that turnover during the first four months declined by 17 per cent to SKr 300m.

### Aegon lifts earnings 18%

By Our Financial Staff

AEGON, the Dutch insurance group, reports an increase in first-quarter profits and reiterates its forecast of higher earnings for the whole of 1985.

Profits after tax for the quarter have risen by 18 per cent to Fl

69.1m (\$20.3m) on a 12 per cent rise to Fl 3.1bn in total revenues, premiums plus investment income.

Revenues improved mostly as a result of the continued rapid development of group operations in North America, Aegon said.

### Fiat rules out Ford Europe link this year

By Alan Friedman

FIAT, the leading Italian private sector group, will not sign any agreement with Ford this year.

Sig Giovanni Agnelli, the chairman, appeared to put an end to speculation that an agreement between Fiat Auto, the Fiat car subsidiary, and Ford Europe was close. The two companies have been discussing for several months possible methods of collaboration and even, it has been reported, the possibility of a merger.

Fiat yesterday confirmed Sig Agnelli's remarks but did not elaborate on them. Asked if an agreement would be signed this year, Sig Agnelli said: "No, absolutely. It is all at a stage of investigation and study. It is an interesting operation but like all operations to integrate and reinforce productive capacity in Europe, difficult to put together."

### Court overturns bank ruling

A U.S. court of appeals in Atlanta has overturned a landmark Federal Reserve Board ruling that permitted New York-based U.S. Trust Corp. to convert its trust office in Palm Beach, Florida, to a limited-service bank, AP-DJ reports from New York.

That ruling by the Fed, which had reluctantly agreed on technical grounds, had prompted a barrage of similar applications by institutions seeking to circumvent barriers to interstate banking.

The appeal was brought by the Florida Bankers Association and the Florida comptroller's office, which regulates banking activity in the state.

Pillsbury, the U.S. fast foods group, is to buy Illinois-based Diversifoods for \$11.50 a share, or \$300m, edging out an earlier \$389m cash-and-stock bid by Horn & Hardart, a store franchisee.

Diversifoods, the largest franchisee of Pillsbury's Burger King restaurants, said it found Pillsbury's all-cash offer more attractive because, among other things, it "guaranteed equal treatment" to shareholders.

Financier Sir James Goldsmith told the Securities and Exchange Commission that his investment group had bought an additional 1.3m shares of Crown Zellerbach,

the West Coast forest products concern.

The purchase raises Goldsmith's stake to 25.02 per cent of the outstanding Zellerbach stock from 20.06 per cent previously.

ITT, the U.S. conglomerate, is to lay off about 800 workers out of 4,000 at its telephone and telephone system manufacturing and sales division based in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Nestle's Brazilian subsidiary, the country's largest food manufacturer, had a drop in profitability in 1984 with earnings of Cr 73.8bn (U.S. \$40.2m) at last year's average exchange rate on sales of Cr 1.4 trillion (U.S. \$775.9m).

### Pacific Telesis in \$431m acquisition

By Paul Taylor in New York

PACIFIC Telesis (Pactel), the U.S. West Coast telecommunications group, is to acquire Communications Industries (CI), a leading Dallas-based cellular telephone and paging equipment manufacturer and system operator, for \$431m.

It will be the first major acquisition by Pactel, one of the seven regional telephone holding companies set up as a result of the court-mandated break-up of the Bell System at the start of last year.

Pacific Telesis, which is earning a reputation as one of the most aggressive of the regional holding companies, already has extensive cellular and paging operations. Mr. Sam Ginn, Pactel's vice-chairman, noted that CI "has an excellent management team and is a national leader in the rapidly growing field of paging and cellular technology, businesses we know well."

Under the terms of the deal, which is subject to regulatory and shareholder approval, CI's stockholders will receive \$32.75 in cash for each outstanding common share.

In an apparent attempt to lock out other potential bids, CI has given Pactel a warrant to acquire a 30 per cent stake in the Dallas group and an option to acquire some of the group's paging and cellular assets. CI has recently received several takeover proposals, including a \$306m cash and paper offer from a group of investors led by a former senior executive of the company.

Aside from its equipment manufacturing business, CI has more than 275,000 personal paging, car telephone and answering service subscribers in over 20 metropolitan areas and is one of the fastest growing groups in the infant cellular car telephone market. It had net earnings of \$14.8m on revenues of \$94.2m last year.

Pacific Telesis had earnings last year of \$82.5m on revenues of \$7.8bn and has undertaken a number of smaller strategic acquisitions recently, including the purchase of Kensington Datacom, the UK telecommunications group, earlier this year.

### INTERNATIONAL CAPITAL MARKETS

## EEC \$1.8bn deal flops

By Peter Montagnon in London

THE EEC met a frosty reception when it launched a \$1.8bn, five-year floating rate note in the Eurobond market yesterday.

The paper landed in a subdued market with many dealers away in Helsinki for the annual meeting of the Association of International Bond Dealers. But that did not stop the launch of a much more successful DM 150m issue for the Bank of China, that country's first borrowing in the Eurobond market.

Bankers said the terms on the EEC issue were simply too tight to ensure a positive reception. The bond is to replace a similar issue launched by the EEC in 1983 as part of a package of financing for on-lending in France.

Led by Credit Suisse First Boston alongside Banque Nationale de Paris, Citicorp and Loyds Bank International the new issue bears a margin of 1/2 per cent over the London interbank bid rate for six-month Eurodollar deposits. It was being offered to co-managers at a net purchase price of \$9.925.

But the paper fell almost immediately below this break-even point to trade yesterday morning at a discount of some 25 basis points and even lead manager support in the

afternoon failed to narrow the discount to more than 10 points.

Bankers believe that the tight terms on the new issue mean it will not appeal to bank buyers, who took large amounts of the previous issue with its margin of 1/4 per cent over Libor. That means its appeal is basically restricted to institutional investors, who will treat the paper as a high quality liquid money market investment.

But \$1.8bn is a large amount for these investors to swallow, especially since the terms are tight, and some bankers were arguing yesterday that the paper could continue to move slowly even when market volume gets back to normal next week once the AIBD meeting is over.

The issue is part of a major restructuring of the EEC financing for France, which earlier this week announced that it plans to repay \$600m of a parallel syndicated loan. Discussions on the refinancing of the remainder of this loan totalling \$640m are now reportedly under way, with some bankers expecting that the EEC could opt to convert it into a cheap Euronote issuance facility.

In contrast, China's first Eurobond issue was a big success, partly

due to its rarity value for investors and partly to the country's strong international credit rating. With net deposits of \$14.3bn in Western banks, China is the biggest developing country net creditor of the international banking system.

The seven-year issue, led by Deutsche Bank, bears interest at 7 per cent and is priced at par. Underwritten by the unresolved problem of China's failure to redeem \$8m in imperial bonds issued before World War II, investor demand yesterday pushed the price of the issue up to a premium of around 1/4 per cent.

New South Wales Government Insurance Office made its debut in the market with an A\$40m, four-year, 13 1/4 per cent issue at par led by Bankers Trust International and Kredietbank.

The EEC meanwhile confirmed yesterday that it is to launch an Ecu 50m, 10-year private placement in the Tokyo market.

In a slightly firmer Swiss market Ireland has been awarded a 5 1/2 per cent coupon as indicated for its 12-year SwF100m public issue led by Swiss Bank Corporation.

International bond service, Page 30

### Bulgaria taps Euromarket for \$100m

By Peter Montagnon in London

BULGARIA yesterday launched a \$100m credit in the Euromarkets, its first such borrowing since 1979.

It has mandated National Westminster and Moscow Narodny Bank to raise the funds on the basis of a margin over Eurocurrency rates of 1/4 per cent for the first four years and 1/2 per cent for the following three.

National Westminster said in a statement last night that the deal would be syndicated on a highly selective club basis with a limited number of banks.

Rumours of a possible loan for Bulgaria have been circulating in the Eurocredit market for several weeks.

Most of these borrowings have been arranged on exceptionally tight terms, indicating that the East European bloc has now recovered from the payments problems which surfaced in the wake of the Polish debt crisis in 1981.

S&P Bank Bond average		
May 22	1985	Previous
102.645		102.565
High	102.980	Low
		99.840

## IMF to reopen Third World fund

By Our Euromarkets Correspondent

THE International Monetary Fund "will shortly reactivate" its SDR \$3bn (\$2.5bn) trust fund to provide low-interest loans to the poorest developing countries, Mr. H. Onno Ruding, chairman of the IMF's Interim Committee said in London yesterday.

Serious developing country debt problems will remain part of the economic scene for some time and more attention must be paid to the plight of the poorest countries, especially in Africa, he told a Financial Times lunch for foreign bankers in London.

A decision to study the reactivation

of the trust fund was taken at the recent Interim Committee meeting in Washington. The fund was created through sales of gold by the IMF under a programme agreed in 1975.

Final conditions under which lending will not be agreed until the IMF's annual meeting in Seoul this autumn, monetary sources said, but fresh loans are likely to be made out of funds already repaid by borrowing countries.

There is no likelihood of further gold sales by the IMF to boost trust fund resources.

In an implicit admission that the industrialised countries have not yet fully responded to the problems of the developing country debt crisis, Mr. Ruding, who is also Dutch Finance Minister, said a medium-term strategy was needed for both private and official creditors.

Creditors may soon catch up on the example set by commercial banks in providing multi-year re-scheduling for debtor countries, he said. They also "have some thinking and explaining to do" on their attitudes to multilateral institutions such as the World Bank.

"Governments should realise that

every budget dollar put in the World Bank makes about \$10 available for loans to developing countries, and they should compare this with their bilateral programmes."

They should have little trouble defending a large share of multilateral aid within the total funds available, he said.

Other ingredients for a solution to the debt problem include progress in economic adjustment of both debtor and creditor countries. There should be no direct link making progress in the fight against protectionism conditional on monetary reform.

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Erik A. Lind  
Deputy Managing Director

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Norway

Telephone: (02) 412500,  
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## INTERNATIONAL COMPANIES and FINANCE

## Icahn bids for Trans World

BY OUR NEW YORK STAFF

MR CARL ICAHN, the Wall Street investor, has launched a hostile takeover bid valued at \$800m for Trans World Airlines, as reported in some later editions yesterday. He threatened a proxy battle to unseat the TWA board if his offer is rebuffed.

Mr Icahn, who has already built up a 24 per cent stake in the \$3.7bn a year airline, offered \$18 a share for the rest of TWA's common stock. The offer was made in a written proposal to the airline's board, which had no immediate comment. The offer ends weeks of speculation over Mr Icahn's intentions -

but appears to set the stage for a bitter takeover battle.

Mr Icahn appeared anxious to lay to rest concerns which have recently dogged similar hostile bids made by other Wall Street stock raiders.

Specifically, he said he was confident the cash offer would be fully funded and that he would not accept any greenmail payoff. If successful, he expected to operate TWA in the long-term interests of the airline, its employees and the travelling public.

Mr Icahn said ACI Industries and other companies controlled by him would contribute \$400m in cash

towards the offer. He was "so confident" the remaining \$200m could be obtained that he was willing to enter into a two-year standstill agreement should the financing not be available before the offer is put to shareholders.

In addition, he would not vote his shares in favour of the cash merger unless a majority of other stockholders voted to accept the offer.

But Mr Icahn also warned that, while he would prefer to reach agreement on a friendly takeover, he would seek to unseat the current board if it refused to put his bid to a shareholder vote.

## UK commodity group faces mystery bid

BY MARTIN DICKSON IN LONDON

GILL & DUFFUS, the UK commodity broker best known for its cocoa trading, announced yesterday that it was holding talks with an unnamed company which might lead to a bid for the group.

Gill & Duffus shares rose steeply on the news, to touch 210p at one point before closing at 190p, up 43p on the day. At that price, the company has a market capitalisation of £125m (\$158.75m).

There was strong speculation last night that the potential bidder was Dalgety, the international agricultural trading group, though market rumours threw up the name of numerous other possible contenders. No comment was immediately available from Dalgety.

Gill & Duffus's interests include commodity merchandising, food processing and packing, and insurance broking. But its mainstay is cocoa trading and processing, and it has been hit hard by the world cocoa

glut, which was mainly responsible for a fall in 1984 pre-tax profits to £17.1m, some £3.32m below 1983.

For the past four years profits have been well below the 1980 peak of £23m as the group has tried to overcome an unsuccessful diversification into chemicals, now abandoned. However, one of its most successful subsidiaries is Clarkson Puckle, an insurance broker which produced profits of £3.8m last year.

Analysts suggested last night that any bid was likely to be around 200p a share, valuing the company at some £130m.

Dalgety, which a decade ago was heavily dependent on its traditional Australasian businesses, has diversified strongly in recent years, buying Spillers, the milling and baking group, for £14m in 1979 and the agricultural division of Rank Hovis McDougall for £42m in 1983. It made pre-tax profits of £57m last year.

## Montedison sells resin plant to Dow Chemical

BY ALAN FRIEDMAN IN MILAN

DOW Chemical's European subsidiary is paying between £10m and £15m (\$15.1m-\$22.7m) to buy a Milan-based resin plant from Montedison, the Italian chemicals, health care and energy group.

The sale of the Montedison factory, which employs 92 people at Fombio, just outside Milan, is part of the Italian group's policy of disposing of non-strategic assets in order to streamline products, reduce costs and indebtedness.

News of the sale to Dow comes just a day after it was announced that Fisons, the UK pharmaceutical concern, is to spend around £12.5m (\$18.8m) to acquire Carlo Erba Strumentazione, the scientific instruments division owned by Montedison's Farnitalia subsidiary. Montedison, which has total debts of £4.34bn, will have total shareholders' funds of £1.11bn following a £1.13bn planned rights issue.

## N. AMERICAN QUARTERLY RESULTS

CAMPBELL SOUP			
Canned soup, convenience foods			
Third quarter	1984-85	1983-84	
Revenue	1,620m	1,520m	
Net profit	51.5m	46.7m	
Net per share	1.60	1.45	
Dividend	0.30m	0.29m	
Net per share	1.04m	1.04m	
Loss	0.30m	0.29m	

NATIONAL CAN			
Metal containers			
First quarter	1985	1984	
Revenue	405.3m	382.1m	
Net profit	3.5m	2m	
Net per share	0.267	0.21	
Loss			

## FT INTERNATIONAL BOND SERVICE

The list shows the 200 latest international bond issues for which an adequate secondary market exists. The following are closing prices for May 22.

U.S. DOLLAR			
STRAIGHTS			
Issued	Bid	Offer	Change on week
Ames Credit 12 1/2 85	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Ames Credit 12 1/2 86	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 81	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 82	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 83	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 84	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 85	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 86	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 87	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 88	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 89	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 90	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 91	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 92	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 93	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 94	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 95	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 96	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 97	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 98	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 99	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 00	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 01	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 02	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 03	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 04	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 05	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 06	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 07	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 08	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 09	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 10	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 11	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 12	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
Bank of Tokyo 12 1/2 13	100	100 1/4	+ 1/4
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## INTL. COMPANIES &amp; FINANCE

## Stumbling block for Blue Circle

BLUE CIRCLE, the British cement group, has run into trouble in Indonesia with a cement plant judged to be one of the most up-to-date in the world. The \$200m plant, in the province of Aceh in Sumatra, came on stream in mid-1983 with a production capacity of more than 1m tonnes a year. But output now runs at barely half that, and Blue Circle has been forced to write off its \$10m (\$12.7m) investment.

Prospects had seemed ideal. The plant—built to withstand earthquakes registering as much as seven on the Richter scale—is perched on the northern Sumatra coast, with its own harbour and a plentiful supply of raw materials. Nearby it has a bagging factory, said to be the biggest in the world.

Blue Circle manages the plant on behalf of the locally formed company, PT Semen Andalas. Blue Circle holds 46 per cent of the equity while other major shareholders are the Swiss Cementa group, the Commonwealth Development Corporation (CDC) and the Saudi-based Islamic Development Bank.

With a total involvement of more than \$22m, it is the CDC's biggest single project in Indonesia. The world Bank has provided more than \$50m in soft loans, while Kobe Steel of Japan, which built the plant, provided credits of \$60m.

Almost none of the money, says so far been repaid.

The problems for Semen Andalas started to emerge in the same year the plant came on stream. A dramatic downturn in Indonesia's revenues from its oil exports, which account for nearly 60 per cent of export earnings, led to the cancellation or rescheduling in early 1983 of several major development projects. At the same time, cement demand was substantially reduced.

Soon afterwards, the Indonesian currency, the rupiah,

was devalued by 27 per cent, while in the first year of production at Semen Andalas, the price of fuel oil soared as government subsidies were removed. The recent rise in the value of the dollar has only added to the dismal catalogue of woes for the company.

But what has really hurt has been the dramatic expansion of Indonesia's cement industry. In the early 1980s Indonesia was still a cement importer. But in the last four years production capacity has increased many times over. By the end of this year it is expected that installed capacity will exceed 17m tonnes—by far the biggest in the Asian region. However, even the most

optimistic estimates put domestic demand over the 12 months at no more than 11m tonnes.

More than half the country's cement capacity is controlled by the Indocement group—the foundation of the vast empire of Mr Liem Siu Liong, the powerful Chinese Indonesian tycoon. At present, he is building one of the world's biggest cement installations in Java with the help of substantial soft loans from the Indonesian State Development Bank.

Indonesian officials are optimistic that the domestic economy will pick up, and in the meantime urge cement producers to export, however, with plants operating only 50 to 60 per cent capacity, Indonesia finds it very difficult to price its cement low enough to compete with exports from Taiwan, South Korea or Japan.

In addition, the many hidden costs involved in operating in Indonesia—such as illegal customs and port charges, payments for export licences plus long bureaucratic delays—tend to squeeze any export profit margins.

Semen Andalas is at present selling a limited amount of cement to Sri Lanka but this is being done more to keep production going than for any real financial return. In 1984 Indonesia exported only 400,000 tons of cement out of a total production of 9m tons.

Semen Andalas has also been hurt by the way that other companies, including those under state control have been allowed to undercut sales in its own agreed concession areas.

Many foreign investors in Indonesia have similar complaints: they say that the Government frequently gives assurances on markets and other operating factors, but then influential parties intervene and are seemingly able to fly in the face of stated policy.

But despite the problems at Semen Andalas, it is unlikely the plant will close. "It would be very indiscriminate to pull out of such a potentially vast market," said one official.

Instead, the company has recently been restructured and new partners brought in which, it is hoped, will be able to exercise more influence on government officials. The plant is also being converted to coal firing.

It obviously rankles with many at the plant that such a modern works is being forced to operate at only half its capacity for nearly four years. "The symbol of Semen Andalas is a blue circle with an elephant inside. It's supposed to symbolise strength, but right now it looks more like a white elephant."

## Kieran Cooke in Jakarta examines an upset in the Indonesian cement industry

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## Modest profits advance at Fuji Heavy

By Chris Rapoport in Tokyo

FUJI Heavy Industries, the maker of Subaru cars, recorded a modest 5.8 per cent increase in pre-tax profits for the year ended last March to ¥30bn (\$119.9m) on sales up 11.5 per cent to ¥672bn.

The company, in a statement accompanying its unconsolidated figures, said the improvement was due to higher sales, continued benefits from income earned on its surplus funds, and increase dividends from one of its sales companies in the U.S.

The improvement reversed the decline in profits recorded last year but does not restore the company to its 1983 peak of ¥34bn in pre-tax profits on sales of ¥590bn.

Sales of cars, the company's main product, went up by 8.7 per cent despite the fact that it decided last summer to postpone the planned production of its Subaru Leone subcompact.

Net profits were ¥14.9bn or ¥40.50 a share, against ¥15.2bn or ¥41.28 a share.

In the current year, Fuji projects another increase in pre-tax profits to ¥35bn on sales of ¥700bn. The dividend is expected to remain unchanged at ¥8.

Kyodo adds from Tokyo: The company told a Japanese press conference that it is considering assembling cars in the U.S. Mr Toshio Tajima, its president-designate, said: "We are studying the matter, though a concrete plan has yet to be worked out."

He said the project might be launched in partnership with other car makers, Japanese or foreign. Fuji is affiliated with Nissan Cars.

**Barclays Fiji sale**  
SYDNEY—Barclays Bank of the UK has agreed to sell its operations in Fiji to Australia and New Zealand Banking Group, ANZ announced yesterday. The agreement, subject to approval by the Fiji authorities, was made on undisclosed terms. ANZ said it plans to take over the three Barclays branches on July 1.

## Two Australian aerospace groups to amalgamate

BY LACHLAN DRUMMOND IN SYDNEY

TWO AUSTRALIAN aerospace companies, the UK-controlled Hawker de Havilland and the locally owned Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation (CAC), are to amalgamate.

The move will create a group with combined sales of some A\$160m, total assets of around A\$100m and 3,350 employees.

Terms of the merger were not revealed because approval from the country's Foreign Investment Review Board (FIRB) has yet to be gained. It is expected, however, that the recently publicly listed Hawker—70 per cent owned by Hawker Siddeley—will buy CAC from its corporate shareholders for something over A\$25m (U.S.\$17.3m).

The two companies said they would merge because the resulting enterprise would be a more effective operating unit.

Senator John Button, the Industry Minister, welcomed the planned amalgamation. He said it would reduce fragmentation in the industry which, he said, had been one of its structural problems for many years. His support suggests few problems

will be encountered at the FIRB.

Both companies are involved with defence work in repair and maintenance of air force aircraft and each is also involved in production of components for the new Hornet fighters being taken up by the air force.

Last year Hawker won 40 per cent of its A\$72m of sales from export, which include components for Boeing, Airbus and McDonnell Douglas commercial aircraft.

In net earnings totalled A\$3.6m for 1984, compared with A\$1.8m for CAC in its year to June 30, when it showed sales worth A\$76m, of which 28 per cent came from exports.

The companies hope the greater size of the combined operation will make it better able to compete in international markets and to participate in collaboration agreements.

CAC is owned by a consortium of seven companies, comprising BHP, North Broken Hill, Western Mining, EZ Industries, ICI Australia, Rolls-Royce, and P & O Australia.

## Warning from Premier after sharp reverse

By Jim Jones in Johannesburg

PREMIER GROUP, one of South Africa's leading diversified food and consumer products groups, suffered a sharp profit reduction in the year to March and is extremely cautious on immediate trading and profit prospects.

Turnover rose by 12.3 per cent to R23.1bn (\$1.6bn) from R20.5bn, but Mr Tony Bloom, the chairman, says that sales volumes came under pressure because of a significant drop in personal consumption expenditure.

He adds that sales margins also came under competitive pressure while cost increases could not be passed on to consumers. As a result the trading profit rose by only 11.3 per cent, to R14.4m from R12.7m.

Interest-bearing debt increased to R418m from R233.7m and this contributed to a two-fold increase in the interest bill to R72.2m from R43.3m. Finance charges were further increased by a R7.4m foreign exchange loss, on foreign debt. Dividend income was unchanged at R400m and the pre-tax profit dropped to R10.8m from R12m.

Mr Bloom says that, virtually every economic indicator deteriorated during the second half of the financial year. A continuation of the present unfavourable economic climate and further rises in inflation and unemployment are likely to maintain pressure on trading margins in the current financial year.

Earnings per share dropped to 16.8 cents from 21.4 cents and an unchanged total dividend of 8 cents has been declared.

Premier is directly and indirectly controlled by Anglo American Corporation South Africa's largest mining and industrial conglomerate. Premier itself has a 38 per cent interest in South African Breweries, which in turn has a 50 per cent interest in the country's beer market and significant diversified consumer interests.

Premier is also the largest shareholder in CNA Gallo, the distributor of recorded music, books and periodicals.

## Bankers agree A\$1.65bn facility for Woodside

BY OUR SYDNEY CORRESPONDENT

WOODSIDE PETROLEUM has reached agreement with its lead bankers on a A\$1.65bn (U.S.\$1.14bn) credit facility which will cover existing loans and its share of the export phase of the North-West Shelf gas project.

doubts in some quarters about Woodside's ability to secure this financing—led to BHP and Shell two months ago launching a bid valuing Woodside at A\$800m.

The joint bidders have since moved from 43 per cent ownership to majority control, with an A\$200m rights issue planned. Doubt over its ability to raise the funds has thus all but been removed, although Woodside had maintained all along that it was able alone to secure the credit.

Commitment of the 13 lead

management banks to the financing which covers existing loans of A\$1.1bn advanced for the completed domestic phase of the project awaits formal documentation and an engineering and technical status report. Consideration for the uptake of the Woodside natural gas have been initiated by the eight Japanese utilities, and final commitment by the project partners is due soon.

A notable absentee from the lead management team is Morgan Guaranty, which led the initial credit to 1981, but backed away from the latest arrangements earlier this year.

While Morgan—along with Citibank—has dropped out, Bank of Tokyo, Dai Ichi Kangyo, Deutsche Bank, NatWest, and the National and Westpac banks from Australia have joined the lead group.

## Marginal dip at Singapore Land

BY CHRIS SHERWELL IN SINGAPORE

SINGAPORE LAND, one of the island state's principal private sector property developers, yesterday reported a marginal 0.5 per cent dip in interim pre-tax profits, but warned that it could not expect to maintain its performance in the current six months.

Analysts said the better-than-expected performance in the current depressed property market was a reflection of the company's cash flow from

buildings already successfully let. Current development projects, notably the Gateway complex, still posed major problems.

Yesterday's figures show the company achieved pre-tax profits of S\$15.5m (U.S.\$7m) for the six months to February, against S\$16.7m. Turnover was 4 per cent higher at S\$40.2m. Interest payments were significantly higher at S\$15.4m, against S\$9m last time.

## Securities suit against Riccar

By Yoko Shibata in Tokyo

CHARGES UNDER Japan's securities laws have been brought against Riccar, the sewing machine manufacturer which last July sought court protection from its creditors.

The Ministry of Finance and court-appointed trustees of the company's assets are jointly alleging that Riccar—along with four former top executives—filed false sets of accounts for 1982 and 1983, allegedly overstating profits.

The charges, filed in the Tokyo District Court, are the first of their kind for nine years. The four men are Mr Shunzo Hiraki, the former chairman and Mr Yuzo Ishii, Mr Yuzo Yashima and Mr Takashi Nakayama.

## JAPANESE RESULTS

Year to	Mar '85	Mar '84
Revenue (bn)	422	398
Pre-tax profit (bn)	11.20	6.81
Net profit (bn)	4.53	4.50
Net per share	8.30	8.42
Dividend	0	0
PARENT COMPANY		

Year to	Mar '85	Mar '84
Revenue (bn)	298	344
Pre-tax profit (bn)	17.13	13.20
Net profit (bn)	9.38	7.02
Net per share	35.36	25.33
Dividend	0	0
PARENT COMPANY		

Year to	Mar '85	Mar '84
Revenue (bn)	188	134
Pre-tax profit (bn)	4.34	4.27
Net profit (bn)	1.71	1.42
Net per share	30.52	25.81
Dividend	0	0
PARENT COMPANY		

This announcement appears as a matter of record only.



## OKG Aktiebolag

(Incorporated in Sweden with limited liability)

**U.S. \$100,000,000**  
**Euronote Issuance,**  
**Short Term Advances and**  
**Committed Revolving Credit Facility**

Arranged by  
**Enskilda Securities**  
Skandinaviska Enskilda Limited

Managers

Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken

Dai-ichi Kangyo International Limited

The Long-Term Credit Bank of Japan, Limited

PKBanken

Société Générale

Svenska Handelsbanken Group

Union Bank of Finland Ltd

Co-Manager

Crédit Commercial de France

Tender Panel Members

Banque Paribas Capital Markets

Dai-ichi Kangyo International Limited

IBJ International Limited

Merrill Lynch Capital Markets

Nomura International Limited

PK Christiania Bank (UK) Limited

Société Générale

Svenska International Limited

Union Bank of Finland Ltd

Facility & Tender Agent

Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken

Banque Paribas (London)

The Industrial Bank of Japan, Limited

Orion Royal Bank Limited

Sanwa International Limited

The Sumitomo Trust & Banking Co. Limited

SwedBank

Sparkbankens Bank

Crédit Commercial de France

Enskilda Securities

Skandinaviska Enskilda Limited

ITCB International Limited

Morgan Stanley International

Orion Royal Bank Limited

Sanwa International Limited

Sumitomo Trust International Limited

SwedBank

Sparkbankens Bank

May, 1985

## Standard Chartered

U.S. \$400,000,000

Standard Chartered PLC

(Incorporated with limited liability in England)

Undated Primary Capital Floating Rate Notes

The following have agreed to subscribe or procure subscribers for the Notes:

Standard Chartered Merchant Bank

Credit Suisse First Boston Limited

J. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Limited

Banque Indosuez

Banque Nationale de Paris

Banque Paribas

Crédit Lyonnais

Daiwa Europe Limited

Dresdner Bank

Goldman Sachs International Corp.

Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited

Nomura International Limited

Österreichische Länderbank

Sanwa International Limited

Saudi International Bank

Société Générale

Sumitomo Finance International

Swiss Bank Corporation International Limited

Tokai International Limited

S. G. Warburg & Co. Ltd.

Wood Gundy Inc.

Application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the Notes to be admitted to the Official List.

Interest on the Notes will be payable semi-annually in arrears in January and July.

Listing Particulars relating to the Notes and Standard Chartered PLC are available in the Extel Statistical Service and may be obtained during usual business hours up to and including 28th May, 1985 from the Company Announcements Office of The Stock Exchange and up to and including 6th June, 1985 from:-

Credit Suisse First Boston Limited,

22 Bishopsgate, London EC2N 4BQ

Standard Chartered PLC,

10 Clements Lane, Lombard Street, London EC4N 7AB

Standard Chartered Bank,

73-79 King William Street, London EC4N 7AB

Cazenove & Co.,

12 Tokenhouse Yard, London EC2R 7AN

23rd May, 1985

£85,000,000



BANQUE INDOSUEZ

Floating Rate Notes Due 1991

In accordance with the provisions of the Notes, notice is hereby given that for the three month Interest Period from 21st May, 1985 to 21st August, 1985 the Notes will carry an Interest Rate of 12 1/4% per annum. The interest amount payable on the relevant Interest Payment Date which will be 21st August, 1985 is £160.68 for each Note of £5,000.

Credit Suisse First Boston Limited  
Agent Bank

WORKING ABROAD  
— The Expatriate's Guide

by David Young 2nd Edition

Published November 1984

Price: £12.50 UK or \$14.00 USA (includes p & p)

For further details contact:

The Marketing Dept.,

Financial Times

Business Information,

108 Gresham Street, London EC2A 3DF.

Tel: 01-631 5581.

(Mail order address only)





## UK COMPANY NEWS

## Bass up 26% but warns of second half slowdown

Bass, which ranks as Britain's largest brewer, yesterday reported interim taxable profits well above most market expectations, but warned that the rate of profits improvement—expanded by some 26 per cent—will not be maintained over the full year.

The interim outcome was a rise from £84.4m to £106m, which compared with City forecasts of around £89m, but the shares fell 15p on the announcement to 557p. They recovered later on to close the day at 568p.

The performance of the group's leisure division was also a reason for the market's disappointment. At the trading level, leisure profits slipped from £8.2m to £5.5m on turnover of £26.6m against £26.2m. Mr Derek Palmer, Bass chairman, said that the severe winter affected the profits of racing operations and that amusement machine manufacturing suffered from difficult market conditions.

He explains that the Easter period fell in the first half this year, but in the second last time, and that this will affect trading comparisons. In addition, the second period in 1984 had the benefit of an extra week's trading and above average weather. These factors combined suggest that the second half of 1985 will witness a decline in the rate of profit growth.

The group's activity—brewing, drinks and pub retailing—continued to show healthy growth both in sales and in profits. Beer sales have continued to expand compared with the same

period last year and market share has increased.

Overall, the division turned in sales up from £85.3m to £93.3m to produce trading profits of £107.8p against £88.3m. Aggregate group sales rose from £1.1bn to £1.31bn. Costs and overheads, less other income, also increased, from £1.01bn to £1.1bn.

Group trading profits came out at £113.4m against £94.5m. They were calculated after charging £8.6m more at £35.3m for depreciation on tangible fixed



assets and after a provision of £3.7m against £3.1m for the Bass employee share ownership scheme.

The depreciable lives of some assets in certain leisure companies have been reviewed, which has given rise to an additional charge of £1.5m. Trading profit is also after adding various surpluses on the disposal of fixed assets and subsidiaries. These made £1.3m less for the brewing, drinks and pub retailing division at £4.7m, but added £1.5m to leisure compared with a charge of £300,000 last time. The cost of company borrowing fell from £10.1m to £7.3m in the half.

The company tax bill at the midway stage came to £37.1m against £28.9m, at an estimated

effective rate of 35 per cent (adjusted 34.5 per cent). After this, net profits came out at £98m against £66.5m.

The interim dividend is to be increased by 0.4p to 3.7p, and will account for £12.1m against £10.7m of available ordinary earnings. These came to £69m against £58.3m. Midway earnings per share are stated at 21.1p, an increase of 4.1p.

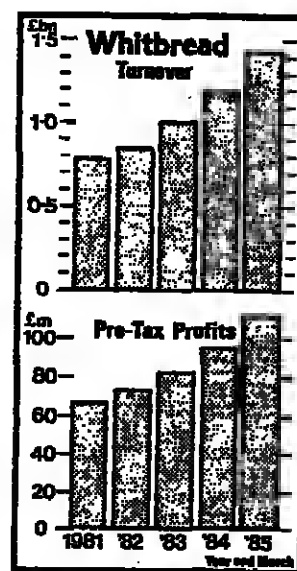
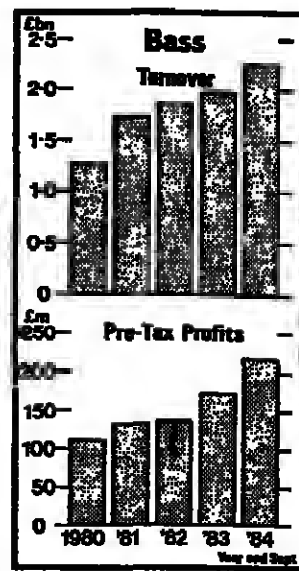
In the last full period Bass achieved record taxable profits of £218.4m, up from £175m, on group sales totalling £2.25bn. The dividend then came to 12.9p. Since the start of the period under review, Bass has expanded further in the leisure field with the acquisition of a further 10.6 per cent stake in Horizon Travel, taking its total holding to 25.6 per cent. Bass gave assurances at the time of the acquisition that it would respect Horizon's wish to continue as a separate company.

See Lex

## Adams

Adams & Gibbon, the Newcastle-upon-Tyne based Vauxhall Opel main dealer, fighting a £5.2m takeover bid by Keep Trust, yesterday forecast a 22.3 per cent rise pre-tax profits for the current year.

Adams is also forecasting a total net dividend of 6.8p for the year ending November, a 25 per cent rise on last year. Keep has been pointing out that it already held or had acceptances for 31.7 per cent of Adams' equity.



Mr Derek Palmer (left) chairman of Bass, and Mr Sam Whitbread, chairman of Whitbread.



Mr Sam Whitbread, chairman of Whitbread.

## Whitbread's £110m marks ten years of profit growth

Whitbread and Company, Britain's third largest brewer, yesterday added another notch to its annual growth record with the unveiling of its results for 1984/85 showing a 15.3 per cent rise from £95.1m to £110.1m pre-tax.

This matched City expectations and marked the tenth of an unabated run of profits growth since the downturn to £21.5m experienced in 1978.

And with all divisions either on or above budget, "things look good for the current year," said Mr Sam Whitbread, the chairman.

Whitbread, he said, ended 1984/85 with little change overall in its volume sales, but pointed out that six weeks into the current year it was showing an increase of 2.7 per cent.

The latest results covering the 52 weeks to March 2 were considered highly satisfactory by Mr Whitbread, given the background of static brewing industry volumes and the miners' strike which cost an estimated £1m in profit terms.

Whitbread's shares gained 8p to 221p yesterday and yield a gross 4.6 per cent—in line with the sectoral average—with the directors recommending a final dividend of 4.5p for a higher total of 6.95p against 6.25p.

Earnings per share rose from 19.27 to 21.35p after tax of £25.4m (£19.6m). The group's new divisional

structure, the chairman said, had proved successful in helping to meet demands of the business; beer, brewing and wholesaling accounted for 48 per cent of total operating profits of £144m, while retailing and international wines and spirits contributed 33 per cent and 18 per cent respectively. Total group turnover advanced from £1.18bn to £1.44bn, generating trading profits of £135.4m against £108.6m.

The chairman said that the year was marked by further investment in North America through the US\$110m purchase

of Buckingham Corporation and the outlaying 45 per cent of Highland Distillers of California. However, Whitbread has been engaged in legal action following the loss of two important product franchises it had acquired with Buckingham.

While Mr Whitbread made no comment on the action, it was disclosed that the group was making goodwill write-offs of between \$15 and \$20m against reserves on the deal—part of which reflected the loss of the two brands.

Whitbread expects to take this up to 16 per cent by the end of the current year and has set a target of 20 per cent over the next three years.

Total group capital expenditure over the year, excluding acquisitions, totalled £148m; Whitbread spent £60m on brewing and wholesaling, just under £70m on retailing and the balance on wines and spirits, and expects to spend a similar amount this year. Interest charges in 1984/85 were £12.4m higher at £32.4m and Whitbread says that net gearing went up from 27.1 per cent to 34.6 per cent.

While the group would be actively looking to replace the lost brands he stressed that the main name within the takeover was Cutty Sark.

Over recent years this brand's market share in the U.S. has fallen from between 19 per cent and 20 per cent to around 15 per cent.

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The P and L account in 1984/85 absorbed £10.5m (£3.4m) of extraordinary items, reflecting £18.2m of closure costs on the Luton Brewery, rationalisation and reorganisation expenditure of £5.4m, and £2m for the termination of Nigerian interests.

Whitbread estimates that the Luton shut-down is reflecting cost savings of around £5m annually.

See Lex

## Avon Rubber's shares slip on interim £2m

A RISE of 53 per cent in interim taxable profits at Avon Rubber was not enough to satisfy the City, which had been expecting nearer £3m than £2m, and the shares were marked down 17p to 293p on the day.

The outcome for the half year to March 31 1985 was an increase from £1.31m to £2.01m, and was due as much to a sharp fall in interest charges as to improved trading. The directors say that the second half is expected to show continued progress.

The interim dividend is lifted by 0.2 to 2.2p per share on capital increased by last September's rights issue, which raised £3.9m for the company. In the last full year, on pre-tax profits of £2.53m, there was a total payment of 5p. Earnings per share are shown at 12.2p (14.5p) for the half year.

The directors say that the profit increase was achieved despite the adverse effects in

the early months of the year of industrial problems in the UK car industry and several petitive conditions in all parts of the tyre business. Avon is also involved in the manufacture of industrial polymers.

Turnover moved ahead from £90.09m to 98.69m, thanks largely to a near £7m advance in exports to £27.15m. Export sales have been encouraged by late strength of the U.S. dollar, but this has also increased the group's raw material costs.

Operating profits came out at £4.58m against £4.5m, in which related companies added £100,000 less at £75,000. Depreciation was up from £1.89m to £2m.

Interest and similar charges were cut from £1.1m to £935,000, and there was a charge for tax of £179,000 (£200,000) arising mainly on the profits of overseas subsidiary and related companies.

Minority interests took £56,000

(£46,000) to leave attributable profits at £1.77m (£1.06m). The dividend is £1.33m (£1.33m).

## comment

Subscribers to last September's one for one rights issue by Avon Rubber have every reason to be pleased—even with a 17p drop to 293p their investment has more than doubled in value. With some of the £3.9m raised applied to reducing gearing from almost 100 per cent to 25 per cent, interest charges at the year end should be significantly down. The group's most exciting prospects lay in the expansion of its military related products—the new Mississippi factory set up jointly with Bell is making hovercraft skiffs for the U.S. defence industry and contracts for a strike of the art gas mask are expected to start coming

through sales in the U.S. and another £30m a year on turnover through sales in the U.S. and the UK from 1986 onwards. Strikes at various UK motor plants have hurt the tyre division and pushed it into second place behind industrial polymers.

Even in tyres, however, the emphasis is increasingly on lucrative niche markets rather than anything smacking of volume sales. The depreciation rise reflects only the inclusion of leasing rather than any change of policy. Yesterday's limited downturn was most likely due to expectations that benefit from the rights cash would flow through more quickly to profits.

For the year the analysts are looking for £5m pre-tax, for a prospective multiple of just under 8 (10 per cent tax) which is surely modest for a company whose 20 per cent of turnover will be military within two years.

## AIB meets dividend with £42m transfer

THE write-off of Allied Irish Bank's interest in the troubled Insurance Corporation of Ireland has eliminated net profits for the 1984-85 year, and the remaining deficit has been met by a £51.2m—equivalent to £42m sterling—transfer from reserves.

The transfer was necessary in order to cover the dividend for the 1984-85 year, which Mr Niall Crowley, AIB's chairman, promised would be maintained at 9.5p per share despite the full £50m write-off cost.

The full allowance for the disinvestment of Insurance Corporation, which has since been taken over by the Irish Government, wiped out the banks profits for the year ending March 31 1985. At the pre-tax level, these were in line with 1/2 forecast made last March at the time of the AIB disinvestment, though they showed a slight fall from £185.4m to £184m (£60m) over the year.

After tax, profits were up by £12.4m at £54.5m.

Mr Crowley says that the dividend—the final is unchanged at 9.5p—is a reflection of our confidence in the future profitability of AIB and our belief that we can achieve our aim of rebuilding reserves out of future retained profits over the next few years.

He adds that the bank's capital ratio at the year end stood at 6.1 per cent, and the objective is to achieve the Bank of Ireland desired ratio of 6.5 per cent by the end of the current year.

...In the period under review AIB's bad debt provision resulted in charge against profits of £133.7m, £12.5m up on an already high provision for the previous year. Most of these occurred in the Irish Republic, and reflect the continuing effects of the recession.

Associated companies lifted their contribution to group profits by nearly £10m to £110.5m. The chief of these is the U.S. based First Maryland Bancorp, which lifted earnings by 41 per cent and has risen 38 per cent in the current first quarter.

## comment

Not surprisingly the ICI debacle haunts both the profit and loss account and balance sheet of Allied Irish Bank. However, a useful £10.1m contribution from First Maryland Bancorp (which should be majority owned within three years) helped keep the pecker of the pre-tax profits up and in line with forecasts. The balance sheet has shrunk from £12.5m at the interim stage to £12.5m mainly due to the removal of ICI—although it has also the useful effect of boosting capital ratios. For the UK investor the total dividend is 10.46p (paid out of reserves) producing a yield of 9.1 per cent—the Irish investor does better, but the tax regime bedevils easy comparisons. In the present year the funding costs of the £140m injected into ICI shortly before its collapse plus the low yielding £50m on loan to the Irish Government and the £20m with London underwriters will all be a drain on returns. Nonetheless the market is looking for a small improvement, to £188m pre-tax suggesting a prospective multiple of four times earnings (35 per cent tax charge) on 115p.

## Shell Transport chief warns of tighter production restraints

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries may be forced into even tighter production restraints this year if oil prices are not to slide further, Sir Peter Baxendale, chairman of Shell Transport and Trading, said yesterday.

Sir Peter, who was speaking at the company's annual meeting and on the publication of the company's first quarter results, said that oil prices could easily fall further from their already weak levels.

Opec's current quota system, which restricts output to 16m b/d was not, Sir Peter said, tight enough to stabilise prices. "Opec may possibly take further collective action to maintain its pricing aims. Alternatively prices may slide further in the next few months."

The most striking feature of Shell's results, however, concerned its metals activities, which are to be rationalised and consolidated "at the cost of £50m to first quarter earnings."

The company declined to say which operations would be affected by the cutbacks, but depressed aluminium prices are thought to be causing problems, especially in Sudan and Australia.

For the quarter, metals recorded a loss of £70m, compared with breakeven in the same quarter of last year. Several other oil companies in recent months have taken steps to shed mining and metals activities during the metal prices boom of the late 1970s.

The group's total net income for the quarter was £1.064m, compared with £1.062m in the same period of 1984. Upstream oil and gas activities benefited from high starting prices and

increased volumes of gas sales.

Downstream earnings, including chemicals, were higher overall, but lower in North America. The company's treasury also suffered from the decline of sterling against the dollar in the quarter, losing £102m on foreign exchange transactions, compared with losses of £14m in the first quarter last year.

Oil and gas earnings for the quarter were £1.26bn (£1.1bn) on sales of £1.1bn (£1.1bn) on an estimated cost of supplies basis—increases of 25 per cent and 15 per cent respectively.

Compared with the first quarter 1984, group equity oil production improved by 2 per cent to 1.66m (1.63m) barrels daily; group natural gas sales volumes increased by 12 per cent to 8,049m (7,199m) cubic feet daily.

Larger oil and gas exploration and production earnings of £247m (£141m) reflect the benefits of weaker sterling, higher natural gas sales and prices, and increased equity crude, production, partly offset by the impact of greater exploration expense.

While reported earnings from oil and gas manufacturing, marine and marketing operations increased from £269m to £315m, earnings on an estimated current cost of supplies basis were lower when compared with the same quarter of 1984. This was continued widespread difficulty of recovering, in local currency proceeds, supply cost increases caused by the stronger U.S. dollar.

Chemicals earnings were largely unchanged at £83m (£80m). Provisions of £50m for rationalisation and consolidation of metals activities contributed to a £76m loss (nil) in this sector.

Coal earnings improved slightly to £4m (£3m) due to higher sales of extraordinary items, reflecting change rate movements.

Corporate expense was £131m higher at £189m due mainly to currency, exchange losses of £102m (£14m), arising out of the sudden weakening of the dollar against most other major currencies at the end of the first quarter 1985.

Shell Oil's dollar net income for the quarter was 2 per cent lower. Reduced selling prices for refined oil, refined products, chemicals and natural gas liquids more than offset the benefits of lower Windfall Profit Tax and raw material costs, and higher crude oil production.

The contribution to group sterling net income increased however, by £59m to £219m, after £102m (£14m) exchange losses, after exchange rate and the higher group shareholding.

Funds generated amounted to £2,530m (£2,370m) for the quarter. Net working capital declined by only £38m (£54m) in the period, after excluding £520m for the effect of the reorganisation of refining and marketing operations in Japan.

Despite a decline in volumes held, the sterling value of inventories increased, but this was outweighed by a rise in current tax payable. Depreciation, depletion and amortisation increased by £22m to £810m, mainly due to the effect of weaker sterling. Cash and short-term securities were up by £583m (£1,060m) in the quarter.

See Lex

## DEBENHAMS BOARD REJECTS OFFER BY THE BURTON GROUP

The Board of Debenhams, advised by N. M. Rothschild & Sons Limited, rejects the offer announced today by the Burton Group. The offer is inadequate in the extreme and lacks any obvious commercial logic.

With its imaginative and innovative decentralised management structure, the Debenhams Group is successfully showing that department stores have an important and increasingly profitable role to play in the retailing sector, especially when coupled with a well balanced property portfolio and, in Welbeck Finance, a leading consumer credit organisation.

Over the past four years the Debenhams Group has undergone an intensive period of consolidation and reconstruction, the fruits of which were manifest in the record earnings and dividends for the year ended 2nd February 1985 announced recently.

Trading profits have improved consistently over the past four years and the Debenhams Group is poised for yet further gains.

The suggestion that Burton can offer any management skills to enhance the performance of the Debenhams Group, which embraces a range of activities including specialist retailing, footwear manufacture and financial services, is fanciful.

The notion that the interests of such internationally renowned retailing names as Harvey Nichols and Hamleys can best be served by being merged with high street clothing multiples is odd.

The Board is convinced that the interest of shareholders, staff and customers is best served by the Debenhams Group remaining independent.

Given the Group's excellent long term prospects as a powerful and independent force in retailing, Debenhams shareholders would be ill-advised to sacrifice their right to future gains by accepting Burton's opportunistic and inadequate bid—which even seeks to deny Debenhams shareholders' entitlement to the final dividend for 1984/85.

The Board will be writing to shareholders giving its detailed reasons for the rejection of the offer in due course. In the meantime shareholders are urged to take no action with regard to the offer and are strongly advised not to sell their shares in the market.

**DEBENHAMS**  
*Specialists - above all*

22nd May 1985.

## The Iron Trades Employers Insurance Association Limited

and its wholly-owned subsidiary

Iron Trades Mutual Insurance Company Limited

ASSETS OF THE GROUP EXCEED £445m

Group Results		1984	1983
		£m	£m
PREMIUM INCOME			
Liability and Health Care	39.3	36.4	
Property and Commercial Insurance	8.4	8.5	
Motor and Other Personal Insurance	48.4	45.8	
	96.1	90.7	
UNDERWRITING RESULTS		(14.5)	(7.6)
EXCEPTIONAL LOSSES AND PROVISIONS		(6.0)	—
INVESTMENT INCOME		22.4	24.7
		1.9	17.1
TAXATION		1.1	8.8
SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR		0.8	8.3
TOTAL RESERVES		183.6	163.9

The parent company is a Mutual office and has specialised in liability insurance on behalf of its members since 1893. The Group underwrites health care insurance, which continues its steady growth, and private motor business in which we maintain a significant market presence.

The overall surplus for the year has been transferred to Free Reserves. The financial strength of the Group is reflected in Assets which exceed £445m.

**Iron Trades Insurance Group**

For a copy of our 1984 Annual Report and Accounts please contact:  
The Company Secretary  
THE IRON TRADES INSURANCE GROUP  
21/24 Grosvenor Place, London SW1X 7JA



## UK COMPANY NEWS

Alexander Nicoll looks at Bunzl's £117m bid for Brammer  
City favourite's diversification move

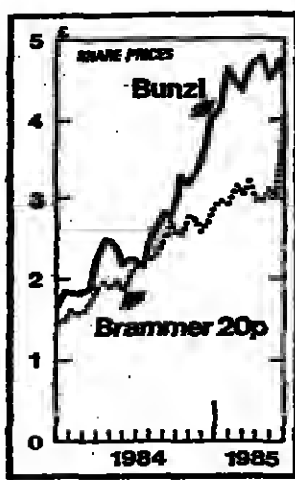
FOUR YEARS ago, says Mr James White, "you wouldn't have given up" for the chances of survival of Bunzl's core business—the manufacture of cigarette filters.

As the world's largest maker of filters, Bunzl was threatened by the falling market share of Imperial Group, then its major UK customer, and by a growing trend among cigarette manufacturers including Imperial to produce filters themselves.

Now, the picture is very different. Bunzl has not only slimmed down its filter division so that it makes a healthy profit from filters and, increasingly, from spin-off products. More importantly, it has become a significant distributor and manufacturer of paper and plastic products, especially in the U.S. where its activities now account for more than half its turnover and profits.

"We know what makes for success in distribution," said Mr White yesterday, explaining the rationale behind the company's bid for Brammer. "Control of the margins and, not least, very tight control of working capital."

Brammer, which distributes bearings, power transmission equipment and electronic components at short notice to industrial customers, would not have immediate synergy in terms of the products it supplies. But,



added Mr John Farrago, another Bunzl director, "all our businesses are very service-oriented, providing quick and comprehensive service to industrial users."

Bunzl's shares were among the strongest performing on the Stock Exchange last year and the company had been expected for some time to make an important diversifying move. In addition to providing a "fifth leg" to add to its "sitron" merchant, industrial and distribution divisions, the acquisition

would address the balance between the company's U.S. and UK activities—it also has important operations in Continental Europe and elsewhere.

The emphasis placed by Bunzl on distribution owes much to Mr White, 47, who was appointed in 1980 as managing director after 10 years with SKF—like Brammer, a bearings group—and 10 years with Lex Service, which, like Bunzl, has grown rapidly in the U.S.

His arrival transformed the company, which had been run by the Bunzl family of which Mr Ernest Bunzl, the 69-year-old executive chairman, is the last member in the UK group. (He changed his name after coming from Austria and joining the British Army in the Second World War.) The family, which has developed the filter business out of an Austrian order group founded in 1884, still controls American Filtrona, with which the UK Bunzl severed shareholding links last year.

Although Bunzl is a City favourite, its bid target has also won plaudits for its successful weathering of the UK recession and subsequent growth strategy. As well as having a dominant UK market share in cash-generative bearings distribution, Brammer has been developing in the power transmission and electronics field as well through several U.S. acquisitions.

ON APRIL 25 dinner at the Hyde Park Hotel, ostensibly to bury the hatchet after Bunzl had sold a potentially threatening 4.6 per cent stake in Brammer, yesterday became a focal point in an unusual three-cornered take-over fight.

Bunzl, launching its bid for the bearings distribution group, said that the meeting, which began as an early evening cocktail and was extended over six hours, was held at the invitation of Mr John Head, Brammer chairman. Brammer, according to Head, suggested a further meeting to be held last Thursday, but cancelled it at short notice.

Last Friday, Brammer announced a bid for Energy Services & Electronics, a move which Bunzl is seeking to portray not only as ill-conceived but also as a defensive measure against a Bunzl bid for Brammer.

Readers of Bunzl's statement could also infer that Brammer instigated the talks to discuss a possible link with Bunzl. Yesterday's news, if true, would undermine Brammer's argument that Bunzl's bid far it lacks industrial logic.

This was firmly denied yes-

terday by Mr Robert Foulkes-Jones, joint managing director of Bunzl. He and Mr Head had met Mr James White, managing director of Brammer, precisely because the paper group had sold its holding in Brammer and therefore apparently had no further interest in it. Mr White had explained why he had shown interest in Brammer, and the Brammer directors told him that there was no logic in a merger, according to Mr Foulkes-Jones.

Brammer also dismisses as nonsense Bunzl's contention that its ESE bid is a defensive play. It had been looking at ESE for some time, it says, but had been concerned by Bunzl's purchase of a stake in Brammer.

Whatever their disagreements, the three men got on well over dinner, according to Mr Foulkes-Jones. A lunch was suggested so that Mr Barry Ralph, the other Brammer joint managing director could meet Mr White. But it was called off as Brammer prepared its ESE bid. Yesterday's news, according to Brammer, then came as an unwelcome surprise.

The interpretation of these encounters will no doubt be just one of the issues in what promises to be a fight perhaps unprecedented in the City, with Brammer simultaneously to pursue a vigorous attack on ESE—which has yet to respond to its offer—and a stout defence against Bunzl.

There may even be a further twist. Peek Holdings, the shell company which secured acceptances from 49.7 per cent of the equity of ESE with its reverse bid last week, is free to bid again and is understood to be considering its position. The normal one-year waiting period after an unsuccessful bid does not apply if another offer emerges.

## Active Clarke Nickolls down to £511,000

Property developer and investor Clarke Nickolls & Coombs suffered a setback in 1984 results, with its pre-tax profit falling from £300,000 to £511,000. The company's earnings were unchanged at 17.5p per 25p share.

Development activity resulted in a substantial amount of interest being charged to profit in 1984. The company's earnings were unchanged at 17.5p per 25p share.

Turnover from the sale of land and building came to £242,000 (£210m). The majority of the 1984 figure was attributed to the sale of the Rosehill Trading Estate, Reading, but that also led to a reduction approaching £200,000 from the rent roll.

Gross rents received were held at £1.0m.

Lettings completed in early 1985, say the directors, should increase considerably rental income in the year.

They are raising the dividend for 1984 from 8p to 8.5p net, with a final of 4.2p. Earnings per share were lower at 4.8p (10p).

Tax taken £273,000 (£398,000) extraordinary charges £811,000 (£143,000); to leave an attributable loss £573,000 (profit £368,000). The extraordinary charge reflects the decision to provide £500,000 against the value of the investment in Tom Smith which has continued to incur losses.

In a move to upgrade the investment portfolio, several properties in Hackney were sold, which led to book losses, and substantial new investments were made.

During the year the company became active in the U.S. schemes in Los Angeles and San Francisco. The directors feel the U.S. operation will be making a contribution to profits in 1985.

## MAM ahead 8% at halfway

Management Agency and Music, the hotels, leisure and music group, has raised profits by some 8 per cent in the half year to January 31, 1985. Pre-tax figures rose from £18,103 to £19,610, on turnover ahead 7 per cent at £16.44m, against £15.31m.

Mr Gordon Mills, the chairman, says the results are in line with the forecast (in the last annual report) that profits for the full year were likely to be similar to the previous year's £1.83m pre-tax. This excluded the effect on profits of any settlement during the period of the Gilbert O'Sullivan lawsuit.

However, the chairman now warns that profits for the full year will be somewhat lower than previously anticipated.

An out-of-court settlement of the long-running legal dispute with Gilbert O'Sullivan, over royalties, was effected on March

29 at a cost to the group of around £1.8m. But Mr Mills says this should be considerably reduced as a result of tax relief.

The company is proceeding with arrangements for the proposed merger with the Chrysalis Group—one of Britain's most successful independent record companies. It will be making revised profits forecast for the year to the circular to be sent to shareholders.

The interim dividend is maintained at 2.8p net per share.

After tax of £384,298 (£395,360) first-half earnings per 10p share were up from a stated 5.06p to 6.02p.

comment

With shareholders agog to hear the full details of the rescue takeover of MAM by Chrysalis, an indifferent set of interim results scarcely made a ripple. Anyone who bought the shares before

they were suspended at 162p in March will no doubt have done this, but not without an improvement in MAM's performance. In February the company warned that this year's profits would be much the same as last year's (ignoring the £1.8m out-of-court settlement with Gilbert O'Sullivan). Now they say that they will be worse. Three of their divisions are independently to blame, which sounds more like bad management than bad luck. The machine division is still suffering at the hands of its monopoly buyers, the brewers; the video processing company is having trouble switching its emphasis from small to larger contracts, while the music shops bought last year have been more difficult to turn round than expected. Thankfully none of this matters much—provided the merger goes through, MAM will be swallowed up by the larger and more go-getting Chrysalis.

## Charlie Browns coming to USM

BY LUCY KELLAWAY

Charlie Browns Car Part Centres is coming to the USM via a placing by Rensburg and Co of 1.8m ordinary shares at 70p each. Of the enlarged equity 20.98 per cent is being placed to raise £1.26m of which £705,000 represents new money for the company. The remaining shares are being sold by the company's joint managing directors, Mr Ian Harrison and Mr Andrew Baird, who will each retain more than 30 per cent of the equity following the flotation. At the placing price the company is capitalised at £4.6m.

Charlie Browns is a retailer of car parts and spares based in Shipley. It has 53 outlets in the North of England selling a range of 12,000 parts, with facilities to fit the parts on the premises. The number of outlets has been steadily increasing since 1980, and the company plans to add a further five or six in each of the next three years.

In the year to July 1984, Charlie Browns made pre-tax profits of £210,000 on sales of £7.7m. The company steadily increased profits in each year to 1983 when it made £224,000; the downturn in 1984 reflected an

increase in costs connected with the addition of 10 new outlets during that year.

The company says that these are now operating profitably, and will help lift profits to a forecast £575,000 pre-tax in the current year. In the first eight months of the company made profits of £224,000.

Based on forecast 1985 profits, the shares at the placing price are on a price earnings multiple of 13, assuming a 47 per cent profit. On an estimated full year's dividend of 2.5p the shares yield 4.7 per cent. Dealings will begin on May 30.

## John Williams at £23,000

THE MODEST profit forecast by John Williams of Cardiff for the half year ended March 31, 1985, turns out to be £23,000. Interest charges have been cut to £150,000, but they remain a "heavy burden" and the directors are considering ways of reducing borrowings, some of which may require shareholders' approval.

In the six months of last year there was a loss of £24,000, after interest of £203,000, and this had risen to £270,000 by the year end. The company last made

a profit in 1979-80. Both the foundry, side and steel stockholding and processing are profitable, and the directors expect them to remain so for the current year as a whole. The foundry order book is satisfactory although the market remains very competitive. In steel stockholding and processing the business is by its nature, sustained on a very short order book; and the company is well placed to take advantage of any increase in the general economic level of activity.

## DIVIDENDS ANNOUNCED

	Current payment	Date of payment	Corresponding div. year	Total for year	Total for last year
Allied Irish Bank	2.2p	July 10	2	0.5	0.5
Avon Rubber	2.2p	July 10	2	0.5	0.5
Bam	3.7p	July 22	3.3	12.9	12.9
Buckley's Brewery	1.9p	July 5	1.7	2.45	2.45
Chamberlain & Hill	2.1p	July 1	2	3.1	3.1
Charles Nicolls	4.2p	July 1	4	3.5	3.5
Guinness Peat	0.8p	—	0.8	1.4	1.4
Jersey General	0.7p	July 31	7	13.25	12
Kingsley & Forrester	0.5p	—	Nil	0.5	Nil
MAM	2.2p	June 18	2.8	8.75	8.75
MINT	1.2p	July 10	1	3.25	3.25
Parkland Textile	3.2p	July 12	3.2	4.8	4.8
Redfearn Glass	Nil	—	Nil	0.1	0.1
Riffe & Nolan	4p	July 25	1.7	5.17	5.17
Scottish Investment Int	2p	July 15	1	0.61	0.61
Tunstall Telecom	4.7p	July 31	0.61	6.25	6.25
Whitbread	0.9p	July 24	4.4	6.95	6.95
York Mount	3p	—	3	5	5

Dividends shown once per share net except where otherwise stated.

\* Equivalent after allowing for scrip issue. † On capital increased by rights and/or acquisition issues. ‡ USM stock.

§ Unquoted stock. † Gross throughout.

## Public Works Loan Board rates

	Effective May 22	Non-quota loans A* repaid:
Years	by EHP† A‡ maturity†	by EHP† A‡ maturity†
Over 1, up to 2	11 1/2	12 1/2
Over 2, up to 3	11 1/2	12 1/2
Over 3, up to 4	11 1/2	12 1/2
Over 4, up to 5	11 1/2	12 1/2
Over 5, up to 6	11 1/2	12 1/2
Over 6, up to 7	11 1/2	12 1/2
Over 7, up to 8	11 1/2	12 1/2
Over 8, up to 9	11 1/2	12 1/2
Over 9, up to 10	11 1/2	12 1/2
Over 10, up to 15	11 1/2	12 1/2
Over 15, up to 25	11 1/2	11 1/2
Over 25	11 1/2	11 1/2

\* Non-quota loans A are a percent higher in each case than non-quota loans A. † Equal instalments of principal. ‡ Repayable by half-yearly annuity (fixed equal half-yearly payments to include principal and interest). § With half-yearly payments of interest only.

## NOTICE OF REDEMPTION

To the Holders of

Compañía Anónima Nacional  
Teléfonos de Venezuela

8 1/4 % Guaranteed Sinking Fund Debentures Due 1987

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the provisions of the Fiscal Agency Agreement dated as of December 15, 1972, providing for the above Debentures, \$740,000 principal amount of said Debentures bearing the following serial numbers have been selected for redemption on June 15, 1985, through operation of the Sinking Fund, at the principal amount thereof, together with accrued interest thereon to said date:

OUTSTANDING DEBENTURES OF \$1,000 EACH OF PREFIX "M" BEARING THE FOLLOWING TWO DIGITS:

ALSO OUTSTANDING DEBENTURES OF \$1,000 EACH OF PREFIX "M" BEARING THE FOLLOWING NUMBERS:

On June 15, 1985, the Debentures designated above will become due and payable in such coin or currency of the United States of America as at the time of payment shall be legal tender for the payment of public and private debts. Said Debentures will be paid, upon presentation and surrender thereof with all coupons appertaining thereto maturing after the redemption date, at the option of the holder either (a) at the corporate trust office of Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, 18th Floor, 30 West Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10012, or (b) at the main office of any of the following: Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York in Brussels, Frankfurt am Main, London, Paris and Zurich; Bank Moes & Hope NV in Amsterdam; Credito Romagnolo S.p.A. in Milan and Rome and Credit Industriel d'Alsace et de Lorraine, S.A. in Luxembourg. Payments at the office referred to in (b) above will be made by check drawn on a dollar account, or by transfer to a dollar account maintained by the payee with a bank in New York City. Payments at the office of any paying agent outside of the United States will be made by check drawn on, or transfer to a United States dollar account with, a bank in the Borough of Manhattan, City and State of New York. Any payment made by transfer to an account maintained by the payee with a bank in the United States may be subject to reporting to the United States Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and to backup withholding at a rate of 20% if payee is not recognized as exempt recipient under the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code. If payee is not a United States person or an exempt recipient under the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, payee's taxpayer identification number (employer identification number or social security number, as appropriate). Those holders who are required to provide their correct taxpayer identification number on Internal Revenue Service Form W-9 and who fail to do so may be subject to a penalty of \$50. Please therefore provide the appropriate certification when presenting your securities for payment.

Coupons due June 15, 1985 should be detached and collected in the usual manner. On and after June 15, 1985 interest shall cease to accrue on the Debentures herein designated for redemption.

Compañía Anónima Nacional Teléfonos de Venezuela

Dated: May 8, 1985

## NOTICE

The following Debentures previously called for redemption have not as yet been presented for payment:

	DEBENTURES OF \$1,000 EACH
M 247	1302 2347 4197 6300 7985 8770 10070 10900 11947 12202 12797 13170 14085
461	1336 2370 4247 6361 7989 8388 10119 10925 11967 12205 12800 13236 14089
582	1336 2370 4247 6361 7989 8388 10119 10925 11967 12205 12800 13236 14089
531	1370 2447 4389 7125 9992 9402 10128 11270 11988 12808 12995 13795 14089
1000	1447 2690 4469 7247 8012 8636 10262 11300 11997 12370 12808 13236 14089
1028	1470 2695 4470 7238 8136 8970 10268 11302 12000 12808 13236 13826 14089
1105	1520 2680 4475 7262 8185 8969 10270 11302 12000 12808 13236 13826 14089
1110	1520 2680 4475 7262 8185 8969 10270 11302 12000 12808 13236 13826 14089
1115	1520 2680 4475 7262 8185 8969 10270 11302 12000 12808 13236 13826 14089
1120	1520 2680 4475 7262 8185 8969 10270 11302 12000 12808 13236 13826 14089
1125	1520 2680 4475 7262 8185 8969 10270 11302 12000 12808 13236 13826 14089
1130	1520 2680 4475 7262 8185 8969 10270 11302 12000 12808 13236 13826 14089
1135	1520 2680 4475 7262 8185 8969 10270 11302 12000 12808 13236 13826 14089
1140	1520 2680 4475 7262 8185 8969 10270 11302 12000 12808 13236 13826 14089
1145	1520 2680 4475 7262 8185 8969 10270 11302 12000 12808 13236 13826 14089
1150	1520 2680 4475 7262 8185 8969 10270 11302 12000 12808 13236 13826 14089
1155	1520 2680 4475 7262 8185 8969 10270 11302 12000 12808 13236 13826 14089
1160	1520 2680 4475 7262 8185 8969 10270 11302 12000 12808 13236 13826 14089
1165	1520 2680 4475 7262 8185 8969 10270 11302 12000 12808 13236 13826 14089
1170	1520 2680 4475 7262 8185 8969 10270 11302 12000 12808 13236 13826 14089
1175	1520 2680 4475 7262 8185 8969 10270 11302 12000 12808 13236 13826 14089
1180	1520 2680 4475 7262 8185 8969 10270 11302 12000 12808 13236 13826 14089
1185	1520 2680 4475 7262 8185 8969 10270 11302 12000 12808 13236 13826 14089
1190	1520 2680 4475 7262 8185 8969 10270 11302 12000 12808 13236 13826 14089
1195	1520 2680 4475 7262 8185 8969 10270 11302 12000 12808 13236 13826 14089
1200	1520 2680 4475 7262 8185 8969 10270 11302 12000 12808 13236 13826 14089

This announcement appears as a matter of record only

**KONE**  
CORPORATION

has acquired

**SABIEM**

SOCIETÀ PER AZIONI BOLOGNESE INDUSTRIE ELETTRO MECCANICHE

The undersigned initiated and assisted  
Bastogi-IRBS S.p.A. in the negotiations

**EUROMOBILIARE**

April 1985

## Lec Refrigeration

Points from the Accounts and Statement  
by the Chairman, Mr. C. R. Purley

\* Intense competition led to reduced margins compared with the 1983 record year. However, profit before tax of £3,353,000 is the second highest so far.

\* Total dividend recommended for the year 12.50p per share, as 1983.

\* Sales in first three months of 1985 continued to grow satisfactorily although competition remains extremely keen.

**Lec**

SHRIPNEY WORKS  
BOGNOR REGIS, WEST SUSSEX

OTTOMAN  
BANK

Notice is hereby given that a DIVIDEND at the rate of £5.50 per Share, voted at the General Meeting of Shareholders, held on 22nd May, 1985, will be PAYABLE on and after 12th June, 1985, in London at BARCLAYS BANK PLC, Securities Services Department, 54 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3AH. The Coupon to be presented is No. 112. The holders of Founders' Shares will receive an amount of £643 per whole Share payable on the same date and at the same place, against presentation of Coupon No. 55. Coupons must be listed on forms, which can be obtained on application from Barclays Bank and left for examination four clear days prior to payment.

SUN ALLIANCE  
INSURANCE GROUP

SUN ALLIANCE AND LONDON  
INSURANCE plc

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of Sun Alliance and London Insurance plc was held yesterday at the Head Office of the Company in Bartholomew Lane, London, E.C.2.

Lord Aldington, the Chairman, presided and in addressing the Meeting stated—

"Although we do not publish quarterly results you will know that it is my custom at the Annual General Meeting to tell shareholders of our experience since the end of the year. I need hardly remind you that the estimated results for one quarter cannot be taken as a reliable indication of the outcome of the full year.

At Home, the results have been badly affected by the exceptional losses from the severe winter weather at the beginning of the year, estimated to have cost £22M, as compared with the combined Sun Alliance and Phoenix extreme weather losses of £19.5M in 1984. Motor experience was also poor and, overall, there was an increased underwriting loss from our Home business.

Despite an improvement in the U.S.A. there was a further worsening in the overseas underwriting result; in particular, Canada and Australia produced significantly heavier losses—in Australia this was largely due to the January storms and floods in Brisbane, which are estimated to have cost £3.2M.

In aggregate, the underwriting losses have exceeded our investment income and life profits and we estimate, therefore, that we have again incurred a pre-tax loss for the first quarter."

A Vote of Thanks to the Chairman, Directors and Staff was proposed by Sir Timothy Bevan.



## UK COMPANY NEWS

## Dow Corning Overseas Capital Company N.V.

8 1/4 PER CENT. GUARANTEED DEBENTURES DUE 1986

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the provisions of the Indenture dated as of June 15, 1971 under which the above described Debentures were issued, Citibank, N.A. (formerly First National City Bank), as Trustee, has drawn for redemption on June 15, 1985 through the operation of the Mandatory Redemption Provision of the said Indenture, \$2,500,000 principal amount of Debentures of the said issue, bearing the following distinctive numbers:

## COUPON DEBENTURES OF \$1,000 PRINCIPAL AMOUNT

3232	4748	6803	5295	9897	10518	11294	12009	12634	13701	14721	15454	16155	18151	19634	
32	3232	4748	6803	5295	9897	10518	11294	12009	12634	13701	14721	15454	16155	18151	19634
33	3233	4749	6804	5296	9898	10519	11295	12010	12635	13702	14722	15455	16156	18152	19635
34	3234	4750	6805	5297	9899	10520	11296	12011	12636	13703	14723	15456	16157	18153	19636
35	3235	4751	6806	5298	9900	10521	11297	12012	12637	13704	14724	15457	16158	18154	19637
36	3236	4752	6807	5299	9901	10522	11298	12013	12638	13705	14725	15458	16159	18155	19638
37	3237	4753	6808	5300	9902	10523	11299	12014	12639	13706	14726	15459	16160	18156	19639
38	3238	4754	6809	5301	9903	10524	11300	12015	12640	13707	14727	15460	16161	18157	19640
39	3239	4755	6810	5302	9904	10525	11301	12016	12641	13708	14728	15461	16162	18158	19641
40	3240	4756	6811	5303	9905	10526	11302	12017	12642	13709	14729	15462	16163	18159	19642
41	3241	4757	6812	5304	9906	10527	11303	12018	12643	13710	14730	15463	16164	18160	19643
42	3242	4758	6813	5305	9907	10528	11304	12019	12644	13711	14731	15464	16165	18161	19644
43	3243	4759	6814	5306	9908	10529	11305	12020	12645	13712	14732	15465	16166	18162	19645
44	3244	4760	6815	5307	9909	10530	11306	12021	12646	13713	14733	15466	16167	18163	19646
45	3245	4761	6816	5308	9910	10531	11307	12022	12647	13714	14734	15467	16168	18164	19647
46	3246	4762	6817	5309	9911	10532	11308	12023	12648	13715	14735	15468	16169	18165	19648
47	3247	4763	6818	5310	9912	10533	11309	12024	12649	13716	14736	15469	16170	18166	19649
48	3248	4764	6819	5311	9913	10534	11310	12025	12650	13717	14737	15470	16171	18167	19650
49	3249	4765	6820	5312	9914	10535	11311	12026	12651	13718	14738	15471	16172	18168	19651
50	3250	4766	6821	5313	9915	10536	11312	12027	12652	13719	14739	15472	16173	18169	19652
51	3251	4767	6822	5314	9916	10537	11313	12028	12653	13720	14740	15473	16174	18170	19653
52	3252	4768	6823	5315	9917	10538	11314	12029	12654	13721	14741	15474	16175	18171	19654
53	3253	4769	6824	5316	9918	10539	11315	12030	12655	13722	14742	15475	16176	18172	19655
54	3254	4770	6825	5317	9919	10540	11316	12031	12656	13723	14743	15476	16177	18173	19656
55	3255	4771	6826	5318	9920	10541	11317	12032	12657	13724	14744	15477	16178	18174	19657
56	3256	4772	6827	5319	9921	10542	11318	12033	12658	13725	14745	15478	16179	18175	19658
57	3257	4773	6828	5320	9922	10543	11319	12034	12659	13726	14746	15479	16180	18176	19659
58	3258	4774	6829	5321	9923	10544	11320	12035	12660	13727	14747	15480	16181	18177	19660
59	3259	4775	6830	5322	9924	10545	11321	12036	12661	13728	14748	15481	16182	18178	19661
60	3260	4776	6831	5323	9925	10546	11322	12037	12662	13729	14749	15482	16183	18179	19662
61	3261	4777	6832	5324	9926	10547	11323	12038	12663	13730	14750	15483	16184	18180	19663
62	3262	4778	6833	5325	9927	10548	11324	12039	12664	13731	14751	15484	16185	18181	19664
63	3263	4779	6834	5326	9928	10549	11325	12040	12665	13732	14752	15485	16186	18182	19665
64	3264	4780	6835	5327	9929	10550	11326	12041	12666	13733	14753	15486	16187	18183	19666
65	3265	4781	6836	5328	9930	10551	11327	12042	12667	13734	14754	15487	16188	18184	19667
66	3266	4782	6837	5329	9931	10552	11328	12043	12668	13735	14755	15488	16189	18185	19668
67	3267	4783	6838	5330	9932	10553	11329	12044	12669	13736	14756	15489	16190	18186	19669
68	3268	4784	6839	5331	9933	10554	11330	12045	12670	13737	14757	15490	16191	18187	19670
69	3269	4785	6840	5332	9934	10555	11331	12046	12671	13738	14758	15491	16192	18188	19671
70	3270	4786	6841	5333	9935	10556	11332	12047	12672	13739	14759	15492	16193	18189	19672
71	3271	4787	6842	5334	9936	10557	11333	12048	12673	13740	14760	15493	16194	18190	19673
72	3272	4788	6843	5335	9937	10558	11334	12049	12674	13741	14761	15494	16195	18191	19674
73	3273	4789	6844	5336	9938	10559	11335	12050	12675	13742	14762	15495	16196	18192	19675
74	3274	4790	6845	5337	9939	10560	11336	12051	12676	13743	14763	15496	16197	18193	19676
75	3275	4791	6846	5338	9940	10561	11337	12052	12677	13744	14764	15497	16198	18194	19677
76	3276	4792	6847	5339	9941	10562	11338	12053	12678	13745	14765	15498	16199	18195	19678
77	3277	4793	6848	5340	9942	10563	11339	12054	12679	13746	14766	15499	16200	18196	19679
78	3278	4794	6849	5341	9943	10564	11340	12055	12680	13747	14767	15500	16201	18197	19680
79	3279	4795	6850	5342	9944	10565	11341	12056	12681	13748	14768	15501	16202	18198	19681
80	3280	4796	6851	5343	9945	10566	11342	12057	12682	13749	14769	15502	16203	18199	19682
81	3281	4797	6852	5344	9946	10567	11343	12058	12683	13750	14770	15503	16204	18200	19683
82	3282	4798	6853	5345	9947	10568	11344	12059	12684	13751	14771	15504	16205	18201	19684
83	3283	4799	6854	5346	9948	10569	11345	12060	12685	13752	14772	15505	16206	18202	19685
84	3284	4800	6855	5347	9949	10570	11346	12061	12686	13753	14773	15506	16207	18203	19686
85	3285	4801	6856	5348	9950	10571	11347	12062	12687	13754	14774	15507	16208	18204	19687
86	3286	4802	6857	5349	9951	10572	11348	12063	12688	13755	14775	15508	16209	18205	19688
87	3287	4803	6858	5350	9952	10573	11349	12064	12689	13756	14776	15509	16210	18206	19689
88	3288	4804	6859	5351	9953	10574	11350	12065	12690	13757	14777	15510	16211	18207	19690
89	3289	4805	6860	5352	9954	10575	11351	12066	12691	13758	14778	15511	16212	18208	19691
90	3290	4806	6861	5353	9955	10576	11352	12067	12692	13759	14779	15512	16213	18209	19692
91	3291	4807	6862	5354	9956	10577	11353	12068	12693	13760	14780	15513	16214	18210	19693
92	3292	4808	6863	5355	9957	10578	11354	12069	12694	13761	14781	15514	16215	18211	19694
93	3293	4809	6864	5356	9958	10579	11355	12070	12695	13762	14782	15515	16216	18212	19695
94	3294	4810	6865	5357	9959	10580	11356	12071	12696	13763	14783	15516	16217	18213	19696
95	3295	4811	6866	5358	9960	10581	11357	12072	12697	13764	14784	15517	16218	18214	19697
96	3296	4812	6867	5359	9961	10582	11358	12073	12698	13765	14785	15518	16219	18215	19698
97	3297	4813	6868	5360	9962	10583	11359	12074	12699	13766	14786	15519	16220	18216	19699
98	3298	4814	6869	5361	9963	10584	11360	12075	12700	13767	14787	15520	16221	18217	19700
99	3299	4815	6870	5362	9964	10585	11361	12076	12701	13768	14788	15521	16222	18218	19701
100	3300	4816	6871	5363	9965	10586	11362	12077	12702	13769	14789	15522	16223	18219	19702







## UK COMPANY NEWS

## BAGS rejects £63m bid from Shires Investment

BY CHARLES BATCHELOR

British American & General Trust (BAGS), a £80m trust which has been moving into high technology stocks over the past year or so, yesterday rejected a £63m takeover bid from Shires Investment, a £10m trust managed by Stanecastle Assets.

Shires, a high income trust, has launched its bid just 10 days before completion of a £42m investment by BAGS in seven unquoted U.S. high technology companies. This deal will lead to the issue of 3.8m new BAGS shares, 8.6 per cent of its existing equity is conditional on this deal not going through, though Shires may waive this condition, it said yesterday.

Mr Willie Forsyth, joint founder of Stanecastle, said the U.S. investment involved the largest increase in BAGS' capital which did not require shareholders' approval and claimed a "substantial number" of shareholders had objected to the plan.

BAGS, which is managed by Kiewit Benson, the merchant bank, described the Shires approach as "ill-conceived and totally inadequate". Shires made an initial approach to BAGS on Tuesday for discussions but was rebuffed.

Mr Forsyth said: "We specialise in investment trusts and we will retain funds in the sector. Kiewit Benson do not have the same affiliation to the invest-

ment trust sector."

Shires intends to carry out a "substantial reorganisation" of BAGS' portfolio to invest in high income stocks.

Mr Bobby Nicolle, a director and chairman designate of BAGS, said: "If you remove the premium over net assets from Shires' share price then they are offering less than our net asset value. The institutions are always asking us to do something new and special. It would be disappointing if they sold us out after we have moved our portfolio into the industries of the future."

Shires will make an offer for BAGS comprising a mixture of shares, convertible loan stock and warrants worth a value of 126p on each BAGS share. It will make an alternative cash bid, worth 108.5p, which Shires has underwritten by County Bank.

BAGS' shares rose 1p to 111p yesterday while Shires' fell 14p to 22p.

The paper bid is worth 108.09 per cent of the formula asset value, the usual calculation for valuing investment trusts, subject to a maximum of 17.5p, while the cash bid represents 85 per cent of this formula.

"The bid is to be made in the form of consideration units comprising five Shires ordinary shares, £10 worth of 11 per cent convertible loan stock and two Shires warrants. The units had to a profit of £80,000. The work load is over £2.5m and profits are expected to show an increase in the current year."

The rent roll from investment properties continued to rise and is approaching £250,000 annually. Profit from the printing subsidiary was not as good as last time, but turnover and profits are forecast to improve in 1985.

The tax charge for 1984 was £92,000 (credit £27,000) of which £36,000 related to prior years, leaving a net profit of £113,000 (£132,000) for earnings of 2.8p basic compared with 13.3p and 3.3p fully diluted. Cost of the dividend is £24,000 (£30,000) and last year there was an extraordinary charge of £22,000.

## Unilever sells Nairn for over £30m

By Martin Dodson

Unilever, the Anglo-Dutch food and consumer products group, is selling Nairn International, which claims to be Britain's biggest manufacturer of floor and wall coverings, to Fortis SA of Zurich, the large decorative products group. No price has been disclosed, but the deal is understood to be worth £30m-£40m.

The sale forms part of Unilever's new strategy of concentrating on its "core" businesses and selling off peripheral activities. It is one of Unilever's larger disposals, though still small relative to the size of the group.

Nairn produces vinyl wall coverings (brand names include Mayfair, Kingsley and Contour) and vinyl floor coverings (Cushionfloor and Arena). It is also Britain's only manufacturer of linoleum, with an 80 per cent market share.

Forbes is the Swiss holding company of a "federated" of European decorative products companies, with manufacturing plants in seven countries and sales companies in a further nine.

Nairn had a 1984 turnover of nearly £30m and employs about 2,300 people. It has three manufacturing sites: Cramlington in the north east, Lancashire, and Kirkcaldy, Scotland. More than 50 per cent of production is exported. Forbes, with a 1984 turnover of about £150m, employs some 3,000 people, but at present has no manufacturing plants in the UK.

Nairn is profitable, but the UK decorative products market generally has been depressed in recent years. Reed International sold its large Crown and Sunworthy wallpaper subsidiaries earlier this year to Borden, the U.S. company, and is also negotiating the possible sale of Sanderson, one of the UK's best-known furnishing fabric manufacturers.

Unilever has disposed of over a dozen companies in the last year and made over 30 acquisitions over the last two, all in core areas.

## Campbell severs link with Royex Gold

BY GEORGE MILLING-STANLEY

As Canada's Teck Corporation presses on with its efforts to become the second gold mine in production in the exciting Hemlo goldfields in north-western Ontario, the position of its 45 per cent partner, International Corona Resources, has changed once again.

In a series of related transactions, Campbell Resources has severed all connections with Royex Gold Mining, which acquired control over International Corona in December 1983. This has been achieved through Campbell's sale of a 50 per cent interest in Royex to International Corona, meanwhile, has announced its intention of increasing its interest in Royex to an eventual 50 per cent, which would leave the two companies with stakes of about half in each other.

The link between the two creates a Canadian gold producer of considerable potential. The Teck/Corona mine at Hemlo is expected to come into production in July at a cost of some £150m, and its gold output will add significantly to Canada's current production.

Beyond that, Royex owns 50 per cent of the Remble gold mine, 50 per cent of Mascot Gold Mines, 100 per cent of the Callington Lake/Shear Lake gold prospect and the right to earn 51 per cent of Inca Resources' Rich Gulch gold deposit by bringing a mine into production.

A new chairman, president and chief executive, has been appointed to both companies. He is Mr Peter Steen, who formerly held these positions with Inspiration Resources, the Canadian arm of South Africa's Anglo American Corporation.

Mr Murray Pezim, who funded Corona's initial exploration at Hemlo, becomes vice-chairman of that company.

For Campbell's chairman, Dr Richard Lister, the deal marks the end of a dream of joining the leaders in Canadian gold production, at least for the time being. The company has been suffering heavy losses for some time, and the financial returns which will eventually accrue, especially from the investment in Hemlo, are just too distant for comfort.

In addition, a number of the Royex properties need further development finance. The funds raised through the sale of the interest in Royex will be used to reduce bank debt. He added that Campbell intends to maintain a strong presence in base and precious metals, but effectively the company is left with its copper-gold properties in the Chibougamau area of Quebec and a few gold exploration activities.

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## Essex builder sells stake in C. H. Bailey

North East Essex Buildings Company, an Essex housebuilder run by Mr Raymond Raymond, has sold its entire holding of 450,000 "B" shares in C. H. Bailey, the Cardiff-based ship-repairer. It was believed still to hold 250m "A" shares, which have lower voting rights.

Mr Raymond was among critics of Mr Christopher Bailey, the company's chairman, at a New Year Eve annual meeting.

Belgrave Holdings has acquired from General Electric Company its printing subsidiary, Albert Frost and Sons. The company, which is located in Rugby, will change its name to Belgrave Frost.

Reorganisation benefits double York Mount profit

With the help of reorganisation, the York Mount Group has almost doubled its profit, from £108,000 to £202,000, in 1984. The final dividend is held at 3p for an unchanged 5p net total, although there is a substantial tax charge and the dividend costs more, following conversion of the non-participating shares.

All the main board directors, with the exception of Mr G. A. Linley, have agreed to waive their dividend entitlement.

Mr H. Turpin, the chairman, says the reorganisation of the construction and partitioning division led to its turnover being doubled to £3,04m and a turnaround from a loss of some £4,000 to a profit of £80,000. The work load is over £2.5m and profits are expected to show an increase in the current year.

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# SECTION III - INTERNATIONAL MARKETS

## FINANCIAL TIMES

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### WALL STREET

## Rate doubt challenges optimism

THE OPTIMISM seen during recent trading was challenged on Wall Street yesterday amid fresh doubts about the future course of interest rates, writes Terry Byland in New York.

The stock market quickly dipped in opening business, with the reporting tape lagging behind the trading floor for a time as sellers unloaded blue-chip stocks.

Stocks rallied sharply in the final half hour of trading, however, enabling the Dow to move over the 1,300 level. After showing a fall of around ten points for most of the session, the Dow Jones Industrial average closed a net 5.94 points down at 1,303.78. Turnover of 101.8m shares denoted an active session.

Dr Henry Kaufman, the chief economist at Salomon Bros., warned the National Council of Savings Institutions, meeting in New Orleans, that interest rates would soon rise again as the economy recovered. He foresaw a setback in bonds as the Federal Reserve "begins the first tightening action to lift the federal funds rate." He added that the timing for this was "difficult to predict."

However, Federal funds remained comfortably below 8 per cent yesterday

and modest rises in money market rates indicated little more than realignment after the substantial falls of recent sessions. Bond prices were 1/4 point off but above their lows.

Many analysts disagreed with Dr Kaufman, and some continued to predict that the Federal Reserve may even have to cut its discount rate again in order to re-stimulate the economy. The rise of 1 per cent in April orders for durable goods was in line with expectations, but once again the figures masked a sharp dip in non-defence orders.

Interest rate-sensitive issues to weaken included banks, where Bankers Trust fell 1 1/4 to \$72 1/4, Chase Manhattan 3/4 to \$59 1/4 and J.P. Morgan \$1 to \$31 1/4. Utility stocks, with heavy capital commitments, dipped sharply on interest rate nervousness.

Similar worries lowered stocks in the motor industry, where sales are affected by credit rates. General Motors eased 3/4 to \$69 1/4, Ford 5/4 to \$42 1/4 and Chrysler 3/4 to \$35 1/4.

Stock in General Dynamics rallied by 1 1/4 to \$70 1/4 after falling heavily on Tuesday. The chairman announced that he is leaving the company after the U.S. navy temporarily banned the company from new contracts. McDonnell Douglas fell 1/4 to \$73 1/4 and Boeing 3/4 to \$63 1/4.

In chemicals, a weak feature was Du Pont, 1 1/4 down at \$58. Drug stocks gave up part of their recent gains, with Merck slipping 3/4 to \$107 1/4.

There was selling of IBM, down 3/4 at \$132 1/4, and other computer issues to lose ground included Honeywell, 5/4 off at \$61. Burroughs 3/4 off at \$65 1/4 and Digital Equipment, 1 1/4 down at \$106 1/4.

Pan American held on to its new \$2-

week high of \$6 1/4 but domestic carriers were unsettled by labour problems at United, 3/4 off at \$46.

Among bid stocks, Trans World Airlines added 3/4 to \$17 1/4 in response to Mr Carl Icahn's offer of \$16 for the 76 per cent of the equity not yet owned by him. The when-issued Unocal stock jumped 1 1/4 to \$34 1/4 in heavy trading, while the existing stock traded around \$35 1/4.

Tobacco stocks continued to give ground as the market awaited the courtroom testing of anti-cancer suits. At \$77 1/4, R.J. Reynolds shed 1/4 and Phillip Morris lost 3/4 to \$86 1/4.

In the credit markets, bond prices abandoned an attempted rally after Dr Kaufman rejected suggestions of another cut in discount rate in the near future. Trading in bonds was not heavy, however, and prices stabilised with half-point losses.

The short end, bracing itself for the sale of \$8m in two-year Treasury securities, as well as \$850m at the regular monthly bill auction, was helped by a further dip in federal funds to 7 1/4 per cent. However, cash flows were influenced by the weekly bank settlement operation.

### TOKYO

## Early gains eroded by profit-taking

HELPED by Wall Street's continued advance, institutional and small investors stepped up buying to send share prices moderately higher in Tokyo, although late profit-taking eroded some early gains, writes Shigeo Nishiwaki of Jiji Press.

The Nikkei-Dow market average gained 46.96 to 12,887.35 at one stage, surpassing its April 3 peak of 12,883.20, but closed 23.20 points higher at 12,873.57. Advances outpaced declines by 411 to 376, with 156 issues unchanged. Volume increased from Tuesday's 806.57 shares to 751.18m.

Mitsubishi Heavy Industries was supported by foreign, institutional and individual buying and topped the active list with 89.41m shares traded to close 1/4 up at Y287. Nippon Steel, the second busiest issue with 58.56m shares changing hands, advanced 1/4 to Y159 and Tokyo Gas, the fifth with 24.39m shares, added 1/4 to Y217.

Tokyo Electric Power gained 1/4 to Y1,950, Kansai Electric Power Y50 to Y1,710 and Kawasaki Steel Y6 to Y149.

Fuji Electric, on a turnover of 28.16m shares, advanced 1/4 to Y389 on its development of solar batteries using amorphous alloys.

Investor interest in biotechnology-related stocks remained strong. Asahi Chemical gained Y15 to Y1,010. Mochida Pharmaceutical and Sanraku each scored daily limit gains of Y500 and Y50 to Y1,070 and Y1,020, respectively.

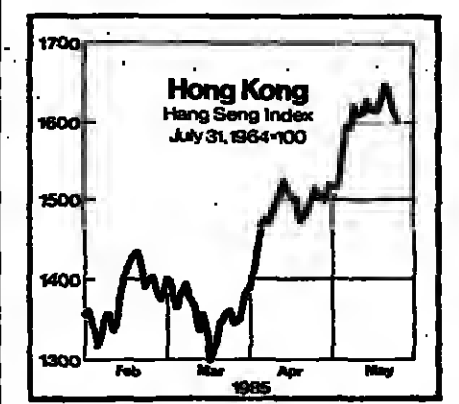
Green Cross added Y170 to Y2,800, Yamanouchi Pharmaceutical Y140 to Y3,130 and Dainippon Pharmaceutical Y120 to Y4,840.

Mitsubishi Petrochemical, attracting institutional and foreign support, registered a daily allowable rise of Y80 to Y520.

Asset-rich stocks firmed, with Nippon Express rising Y13 to Y394, Tokyo Tatemono Y40 to Y643 and Tobu Railway Y10 to Y296. However, blue chips turned lower and trading houses eased off under profit-taking pressure.

Bond trading was active with investors buying in view of the downward revision of U.S. economic growth in the first quarter of this year.

Buying interest in 7.3 per cent government bonds due in December 1983 revived and the yield fell sharply from Tuesday's 6.645 per cent to 6.595 per cent. The yield on 6.8 per cent government bonds, maturing in December 1984 and replacing the 7.3 per cent bonds as the benchmark issue, also declined from 8.635 per cent to 8.615 per cent.



### HONG KONG

A LACK of incentive and late profit-taking took Hong Kong lower in moderate trading.

The Hang Seng market index fell 12.58 to 1,599.84, the first time the index has dipped below 1,600 since May 7.

Hongkong Telephone dropped substantially, ending HK\$1 lower at HK\$94. Other stocks to ease included Bank East Asia, 30 cents lower at HK\$27.20 and Jardine Matheson, off 20 cents at HK\$11.20.

Among the few gainers, Green Island Cement put on 10 cents to HK\$8.80, while Hongkong Wharf remained unchanged at HK\$6.50.

### LONDON

## Takeovers stimulate activity

INTENSE takeover activity in the morning session ensured another firm performance in London. The much rumoured offer for leading retailer Debenhams, up 35p at 362p, duly arrived at the opening when Burton Group, 44p ahead at 502p, announced a shares and cash offer worth £450m or 328p for each Debenhams share at overnight price levels.

The FT Ordinary share index at 1pm came within a point of its all-time high of 1,024.3, but subsequently drifted back on light afternoon profit-taking to settle only 0.7 up at 1,020.9.

In all this excitement, gilts were overshadowed and initially eased back with sterling which lost ground against the dollar and some other leading currencies.

The losses were more prevalent among longer-dated maturities, while short- and medium-life issues maintained a firm stance in light trading.

Chief price changes, Page 40; Details, Page 41; Share price information, Pages 42-43

### AUSTRALIA

SYDNEY continued to move lower as investors consolidated profits made from record gains posted earlier this month.

Resource issues bore the brunt of market sentiment with Western Mining down 22 cents to A\$4.18 and BHP 10 cents lower at A\$6.46 ex-coupon.

Brewer Castlemaine Toobys rose 8 cents to A\$5.48 against the trend after a special sale of 250,000 shares at A\$5.48.

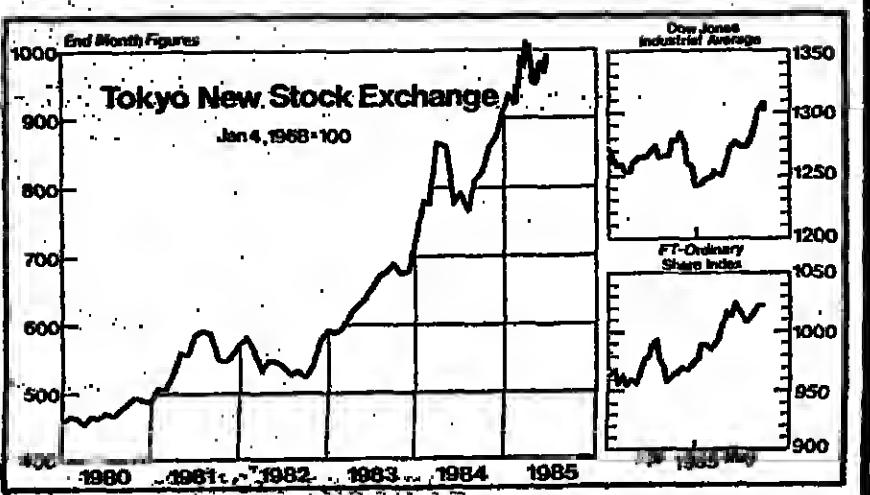
### CANADA

A RETREAT from the strong eight-day advance took Toronto lower across the board in heavy trading.

Imperial Oil traded C\$ lower to C\$51 1/4, Canadian Imperial Bank was C\$ down at C\$33 1/4, Royal Bank shed C\$ to C\$30 and Canadian Pacific at C\$19 1/4 was C\$ lower.

Most shares were lower in Montreal where banks experienced most losses.


### KEY MARKET MONITORS



STOCK MARKET INDICES			
	May 22	Previous	Year ago
NEW YORK			
DJ Industrials	1,303.78	1,309.7	1,116.82
DJ Transport	622.90	626.22	470.68
DJ Utilities	161.98	163.57	125.19
S&P Composite	186.56	186.84	153.88
LONDON			
FT Ord	1,020.9	1,020.2	847.6
FT SE 100	1,233.8	1,234.1	1,084.6
FT-A All-share	642.98	641.92	505.80
FT-A 500	705.49	703.9	553.19
FT Gold mines	484.9	481.5	642.8
FT-A Long gilt	10.74	10.74	10.66
TOKYO			
Nikkei-Dow	12,887.35	12,850.18	10,061.9
Tokyo SE	985.59	991.22	730.28
AUSTRALIA			
All Ord.	888.5	888.0	700.5
Metals & Mins.	562.0	574.1	464.5
AUSTRIA			
Credit Aktien	95.03	95.09	54.86
BELOGIUM			
Belgian SE	2,253.85	2,233.78	-
CANADA			
Toronto			
Metals & Mins	2,028.4	2,053.6	1,917.0
Composite	2,708.1	2,739.7	2,219.3
Montreal			
Portfolio	132.96	135.05	106.61
DENMARK			
Copenhagen SE	190.36	189.35	188.99
FRANCE			
CAC-Gen	223.1	223.0	173.3
Ind. Tendance	124.2	124.2	89.3
WEST GERMANY			
FAZ-Aldien	439.29	438.63	351.80
Commerzbank	1,285.9	1,283.8	1,019.8
HONG KONG			
Hang Seng	1,599.84	1,612.22	923.77
ITALY			
Banca Com.	318.64	318.74	205.89
NETHERLANDS			
ANP-CBS Gen	209.8	209.3	163.8
ANP-CBS Ind	170.2	170.7	130.7
NORWAY			
Oslo SE	339.57	341.52	289.46
SINGAPORE			
Strait Times	822.45	825.58	832.17
SOUTH AFRICA			
JSE Golds	-	980.1	957.5
JSE Industrials	-	1,068.9	975.4
SPAIN			
Madrid SE	111.33	110.77	85.65
SWEDEN			
J & P	363.32	1,396.35	1,468.38
SWITZERLAND			
Swiss Bank Ind	434.3	435.2	370.8
WORLD			
Capital Int'l	212.2	212.8	177.9
GOLD (per ounce)			
	May 22	Previous	Year ago
London	\$316.75	\$317.50	\$316.75
Zurich	\$316.75	\$316.25	\$316.25
Paris (Baring)	\$317.48	\$316.50	\$316.50
Luxembourg	\$317.25	\$319.30	\$319.30
New York (Globe)	\$316.15	\$317.95	\$317.95
COMMODITIES			
	May 22	Previous	
(London)			
Silver (spot fixing)	488.40p	486.50p	
Copper (cash)	\$1,210.50	\$1,174.00	
Coffee (July)	\$2,082.50	\$2,076.50	
Oil (spot Arabian light)	\$28.675	\$28.575	

CURRENCIES			
	May 22	Previous	Year ago
U.S. DOLLAR			
£	1.264	1.272	
DM	3.0765	3.067	3.895
¥	250.85	250.25	317.0
FFr	9.385	9.365	11.885
Sfr	2.5865	2.584	3.275
Guilder	3.4765	3.4575	4.3975
Lira	1.9635	1.9615	2.4840
BP	61.95	61.55	78.35
CS	1.3885	1.3725	1.7355
INTEREST RATES			
	May 22	Previous	
3-month offered rate	9	12	
6-month	9	12	
12-month	9	12	
FT London Interbank fixing (offered rate)			
3-month U.S.	8	9	
6-month U.S.	8	9	
U.S. Fed Funds	7 1/4	7 1/4	
U.S. 3-month CDS	7 1/4	7 1/4	
U.S. 3-month T-bills	7 1/4	7 1/4	
U.S. BONDS			
	May 22	Previous	
Treasury			
9% 1987	101 1/4	9.07	101 1/4
11% 1992	103 1/4	10.40	103 1/4
11% 1995	104	10.58	104 1/4
11% 2015	109 1/4	10.875	109 1/4
Corporate			
AT & T	100 1/4	10.25	99 1/4
10% June 1990	100 1/4	10.25	99 1/4
3% July 1990	80 1/4	9.75	78 1/4
9% May 2000	82	11.25	80 1/4
Xerox			
10% March 1993	96 1/4	10.90	96 1/4
10% May 1993	96 1/4	11.30	96 1/4
Federated Dept Stores			
10% May 2013	92	11.20	80 1/4
Abbot Lab			
11.80 Feb 2013	102 1/4	11.55	100
Alcoa			
12% Dec 2012	101 1/4	12.05	99.213
FINANCIAL FUTURES			
	Lowest	High	Low
CHICAGO			
U.S. Treasury Bonds (CBT)			
8% 32nds of 100%	74-25	75-14	74-25
U.S. Treasury Bills (IMM)			
\$1m points of 100%	92.75	92.77	92.68
Certificates of Deposit (IMM)			
\$1m points of 100%	92.27	92.29	92.23
LONDON			
Three-month Eurodollar			
\$1m points of 100%	91.98	92.00	91.94
20-year National Gilt			
250,000 32nds of 100%	105-20	105-30	105-17
COMMODITIES			
	May 22	Previous	
(London)			
Silver (spot fixing)	488.40p	486.50p	
Copper (cash)	\$1,210.50	\$1,174.00	
Coffee (July)	\$2,082.50	\$2,076.50	
Oil (spot Arabian light)	\$28.675	\$28.575	

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## NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE COMPOSITE CLOSING PRICES

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**Continued on Page 39**



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**Continued on Page 4**

[illegible]

Sales figures are unofficial. Yearly highs and lows reflect the previous 52 weeks plus the current week, but not the latest trading day. Where a split or stock dividend amounting to 25 per cent or more has been paid, the year's high-low range and dividend are shown for the new stock only. Unless otherwise noted, rates of dividends are annual disbursements based on the latest declaration.

a-dividend or ex-dividend, b-annual rate of dividend plus stock dividend, c-liquidating dividend, d-called-d new yearly low, e-dividend declared or paid in preceding 12 months, g-dividend declared after split-up, h-dividend declared after stock dividend, i-dividend paid this year, omitted, deferred or not paid this year, j-dividend paid this year, omitted, deferred or paid this year, an accumulative issue with dividends in arrears, n-new issue in the past 12 months, o-dividend declared or paid this year, p-dividend trading, m-next day delivery, P/E-price-earnings ratio, r-dividend declared or paid in preceding 12 months, s-stock dividend, t-dividend declared or paid during last 12 months, u-dividend sales, l-dividend paid in stock in preceding 12 months, estimated cash value on ex-dividend or ex-distribution date, u-undistributed earnings, v-undistributed earnings, w-when partnership or being reorganized under the Bankruptcy Act, or securities assumed by such companies, wd-distributed, wd-when distributed, x-dividend, y-dividend, yd-dividend and sales in full, yd-yid, z-sizes in full.

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SÖFTEL PARIS · HOTEL LE ROOSEVELT**



**OVER-THE-COUNTER** *Nasdaq national market, closing prices*[illegible]

# LONDON

**Chief price changes**  
(in pence unless  
otherwise indicated)

## RISES

Auto Products .....	75	+	75
Brammer .....	401	+5	406
Burton .....	502	+4	506
Christies Int. ....	575	+13	588
Costs Patons .....	154	+	154
Debenhams .....	362	+3	365
Etam .....	180	+10	190
Fisons .....	355	+10	365
Ford (Martin) .....	416	+	416
Gencor .....	£194	+	194
Gill & Duffuss .....	180	+45	225
Grattan .....	238	+14	252
Habitat Mother .....	384	+22	406
Harris Queens .....	238	+12	250
Higgins Brewery .....	172	+	172
Menzies (John) .....	303	+	303
Reckitt & Colman .....	548	+15	563
Reed Int. ....	516	+22	538
Smith (WE) A .....	256	+	256
Tunstall Telecom .....	300	+20	320
Whitbread A .....	221	+	221

## FALLS

Avon Rubber .....	293	-17	276
Energy Services .....	106	-6	100
RHM .....	159	-4	155
Roife & Nolan .....	142	-5	137
Sons of Gwalia .....	106	-5	101
Vickers .....	328	-10	318

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NOTES—Prices on this page are to be quoted on the		individual exchanges and are last traded prices. * Quotings suspended. x Ex dividend. xx Ex script issue. xx Ex rights.	
Consolidated Pet.	1.40	MEI	2,500
Contain Aust.	0.80	MEI Elec Works	771
Cont'l. Dynam.	0.5	Met. Bank	10
Enders 1XL	1.03	Mishl. Int'l	676
Energ	3.62	Mishl. Elect	387
	+0.91		+2
		Sarron	10,225
		Sarron Hldg.	8.4
		SA Brown	8.4
		Tongkat Mutat.	7.2

### AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE CLOSING PRICES

Stock		High	Low	Close	Chng	Sales	Stack	High	Low	Close	Chng	Sales	Stack	High	Low	Close	Chng	Sales	Stack	High	Low	Close	Chng
TORONTO																							
Closing prices May 22																							
556	Apple Price	518 1/8	18	161	+1	1100	Carson A	512	114	12	-1	10168	Labatt	527 1/2	269	27 1/2	+3	1800	Talcott	90	90	0	-3
100	Agnico E	516 1/8	18	161	+1	12400	Crombie	512	114	12	-1	1100	Loeb Cam	512	269	27 1/2	+3	554 1/4	Thorn	24 1/2	24 1/2	0	-1
100	Agria Int'l	517 1/2	7 1/2	7 1/2	0	25300	Cross Res	515	210	210	-5	107350	Lacana	512 1/2	114	12 1/2	-1	50	Truck Co	513 1/4	513 1/4	0	0
100	Alcan	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	22820	Dixon Dev	525	410	410	-20	900	Loblack Co	515	10	18	+1	3683	Truck B	513 1/4	513 1/4	0	0
100	Alta Natl	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion B	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	19250	MICC	515	315	315	-15	30350	Thorn N A	521 1/2	20 1/2	20 1/2	-1 1/2
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion C	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	8857	Mint N K	512 1/2	13 1/2	13 1/2	+1	43941	Thorn D	521 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion D	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Mountain	512 1/2	13 1/2	13 1/2	+1	12900	Trinity Res	520	340	340	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion E	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	43734	Mountain A	510	17 1/2	17 1/2	+1	30350	Trinity N A	521 1/2	20 1/2	20 1/2	-1 1/2
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion F	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	2107	Molson B	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	1480	Trinity A	520	24 1/2	24 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion G	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson C	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	3500	Trinity B	521 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion H	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson D	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	12533	Trinity C	520 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion I	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson E	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	16853	Trinity D	521 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion J	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson F	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	12533	Trinity E	520 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion K	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson G	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	16853	Trinity F	521 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion L	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson H	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	12533	Trinity G	520 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion M	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson I	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	16853	Trinity H	521 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion N	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson J	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	12533	Trinity I	520 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion O	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson K	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	16853	Trinity J	521 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion P	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson L	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	12533	Trinity K	520 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion Q	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson M	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	16853	Trinity L	521 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion R	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson N	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	12533	Trinity M	520 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion S	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson O	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	16853	Trinity N	521 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion T	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson P	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	12533	Trinity O	520 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion U	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson Q	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	16853	Trinity P	521 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion V	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson R	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	12533	Trinity Q	520 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion W	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson S	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	16853	Trinity R	521 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion X	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson T	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	12533	Trinity S	520 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion Y	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson U	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	16853	Trinity T	521 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion Z	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson V	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	12533	Trinity U	520 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion AA	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson W	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	16853	Trinity V	521 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion AB	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson X	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	12533	Trinity W	520 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion AC	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson Y	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	16853	Trinity X	521 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion AD	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson Z	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	12533	Trinity Y	520 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion AE	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson AA	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	16853	Trinity Z	521 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion AF	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson AB	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	12533	Trinity AA	520 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion AG	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson AC	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	16853	Trinity AB	521 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion AH	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson AD	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	12533	Trinity AC	520 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion AI	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson AE	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	16853	Trinity AD	521 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion AJ	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson AF	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	12533	Trinity AE	520 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion AK	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson AG	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	16853	Trinity AF	521 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion AL	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson AH	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	12533	Trinity AG	520 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion AM	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson AI	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	16853	Trinity AH	521 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion AN	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson AJ	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	12533	Trinity AI	520 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion AO	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson AK	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	16853	Trinity AJ	521 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion AP	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson AL	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	12533	Trinity AK	520 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion AQ	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson AM	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	16853	Trinity AL	521 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion AR	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson AN	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	12533	Trinity AM	520 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion AS	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson AO	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	16853	Trinity AN	521 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion AT	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson AP	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	12533	Trinity AO	520 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion AU	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson AQ	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	16853	Trinity AP	521 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion AV	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson AR	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	12533	Trinity AQ	520 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion AW	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson AS	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	16853	Trinity AR	521 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion AX	512 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	-1	5700	Molson AT	519 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1	12533	Trinity AS	520 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2	0
100	Alton	515 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	0	16350	Dominion AY	512 1															


Continued from Page 39																									
Month	High	Low	Stock	Dr. Yld.	P/E	Stk	100s	High	Low	Open	Prev.	Chg	Month	High	Low	Stock	Dr. Yld.	P/E	Stk	100s	High	Low	Open	Prev.	Chg
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**HAND - DELIVERY IN PARIS**

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**Benjamin M. HUGHES**  
Financial Times (France) Ltd.  
Centre d'Affaires Le Louvre  
168, rue de Rivoli  
75044 — PARIS CEDEX 01  
Tél (1) 297 0623

**FINANCIAL TIMES**  
EUROPE'S BUSINESS NEWSPAPER



4%	StrGeo		4	5%	5%	5%	U	U	U	U	15%	13%	13%	12	3	15	18	
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1%	StrGeo		24	2%	2%	2%	+%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%
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1%	StrGeo		24	2%	2%	2%	+%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%
1%	StrGeo		24	2%	2%	2%	+%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%
1%	StrGeo		24	2%	2%	2%	+%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%
1%	StrGeo		24	2%	2%	2%	+%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%
1%	StrGeo		24	2%	2%	2%	+%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%
1%	StrGeo		24	2%	2%	2%	+%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%
1%	StrGeo		24	2%	2%	2%	+%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%
1%	StrGeo		24	2%	2%	2%	+%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%
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1%	StrGeo		24	2%	2%	2%	+%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%
1%	StrGeo		24	2%	2%	2%	+%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%
1%	StrGeo		24	2%	2%	2%	+%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%
1%	StrGeo		24	2%	2%	2%	+%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%
1%	StrGeo		24	2%	2%	2%	+%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%
1%	StrGeo		24	2%	2%	2%	+%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%
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## LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE

## MARKET REPORT

## Equity index edges nearer record high but takeover activity consumes interest

## Account Dealing Dates

\*First Declared Last Account Dealings: Day  
May 13 May 30 May 31 June 10  
June 13 June 14 June 15 June 24  
June 27 June 28 July 8

\*New-time: Dealings may take place from 9.30 am two business days ahead

Intense takeover activity throughout the morning session ensured another firm performance yesterday by the London equity market. The much-maligned takeover market, which had been in a state of near-collapse, was revived by the announcement of a takeover of Debenhams by the Burton Group. The takeover, which was announced yesterday, was a significant development for the market, as it was the first of its kind in the retail sector. The Burton Group, which is a private company, has been in the process of acquiring Debenhams for some time. The takeover was completed yesterday, and the Burton Group has taken control of Debenhams. This has led to a resurgence of interest in the takeover market, and the equity index has risen as a result.

The morning also brought a new offer for British American Tobacco, which was a significant development for the market. The offer was made by a consortium of investors, and it was a significant increase in the value of the company. This has led to a rise in the equity index, and the market has been in a state of high activity throughout the day.

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## FT-ACTUARIES SHARE INDICES

These indices are the joint compilation of the Financial Times, the Institute of Actuaries and the Faculty of Actuaries

EQUITY GROUPS & SUB-SECTIONS		Wed May 22 1985												Thurs May 23		Fri May 24		Sat May 25		Sun May 26	
Figures in parentheses show number of stocks per section		Index	No. Days Change	Est. Earnings (Yr/Gr)	Cons. Div. Yr/Gr	Est. P/E (Rat)	at 12/31 1984	Index	No.	Index	No.	Index	No.	Index	No.	Index	No.				
1	CAPITAL GOODS (208)	563.65	+0.4	9.98	3.97	22.50	7.11	563.32	559.35	558.79	555.21	555.21	555.21	555.21	555.21	555.21	555.21				
2	Building Materials (25)	564.15	—	12.31	3.60	22.50	6.94	564.94	560.94	559.84	555.84	555.84	555.84	555.84	555.84	555.84	555.84				
3	Contracting, Construction (29)	772.30	+0.9	13.02	5.33	9.35	16.40	765.03	749.95	745.95	745.95	745.95	745.95	745.95	745.95	745.95	745.95				
4	Electricals (15)	1526.75	+1.1	10.26	4.77	12.31	27.85	1518.22	1504.95	1495.95	1495.95	1495.95	1495.95	1495.95	1495.95	1495.95	1495.95				
5	Electronics (37)	1449.51	+1.2	9.95	3.86	14.24	13.77	1463.93	1441.94	1435.95	1435.95	1435.95	1435.95	1435.95	1435.95	1435.95	1435.95				
6	Mechanical Engineering (63)	504.25	+0.5	10.45	4.13	20.73	11.41	515.73	507.93	504.95	504.95	504.95	504.95	504.95	504.95	504.95	504.95				
7	Metals and Metal Forming (7)	197.01	+0.4	12.61	7.72	9.29	3.71	196.14	195.48	195.48	195.48	195.48	195.48	195.48	195.48	195.48	195.48				
8	Nonferrous Metals (17)	1665.19	+0.1	13.36	5.13	9.25	30.99	1655.03	1641.94	1633.94	1633.94	1633.94	1633.94	1633.94	1633.94	1633.94	1633.94				
9	Other Industrial Materials (17)	1003.81	+0.1	7.66	3.31	12.01	11.22	1004.54	999.95	995.95	995.95	995.95	995.95	995.95	995.95	995.95	995.95				
10	CONSUMER GROUP (177)	670.13	+0.4	9.53	3.75	9.35	6.94	666.93	661.95	659.95	659.95	659.95	659.95	659.95	659.95	659.95	659.95				
11	Brewers and Distillers (23)	511.59	+0.3	12.05	4.73	10.54	5.54	513.12	509.95	508.95	508.95	508.95	508.95	508.95	508.95	508.95	508.95				
12	Food and Food Products (22)	1428.36	+0.2	5.99	2.44	24.74	5.76	1424.42	1417.97	1414.97	1414.97	1414.97	1414.97	1414.97	1414.97	1414.97	1414.97				
13	Food Retailing (13)	1668.81	+0.4	6.17	2.66	18.75	5.75	1662.21	1657.97	1654.97	1654.97	1654.97	1654.97	1654.97	1654.97	1654.97	1654.97				
14	Health and Household Products (9)	196.78	—	8.48	4.46	25.38	32.29	196.68	196.42	196.42	196.42	196.42	196.42	196.42	196.42	196.42	196.42				
15	Leisure (29)	179.51	+0.3	4.68	4.23	19.34	32.34	177.79	176.16	175.79	175.79	175.79	175.79	175.79	175.79	175.79	175.79				
16	Newspapers, Publishing (12)	325.21	+1.0	11.81	4.03	9.37	3.28	322.11	319.93	318.94	318.94	318.94	318.94	318.94	318.94	318.94	318.94				
17	Printing and Paper (14)	654.23	+0.2	7.43	3.31	18.14	5.60	642.22	637.95	635.95	635.95	635.95	635.95	635.95	635.95	635.95	635.95				
18	Stores (11)	335.80	+1.5	15.54	5.57	3.74	3.78	336.93	334.95	334.95	334.95	334.95	334.95	334.95	334.95	334.95	334.95				
19	Textiles (39)	944.39	+1.1	9.32	3.67	6.34	14.47	935.41	925.95	925.95	925.95	925.95	925.95	925.95	925.95	925.95	925.95				
20	Tobacco (9)	714.75	—	6.49	3.84	34.85	5.68	714.47	714.51	714.51	714.51	714.51	714.51	714.51	714.51	714.51	714.51				
21	OTHER GROUPS (90)	759.85	—	13.67	4.88	9.44	14.95	759.68	757.93	757.93	757.93	757.93	757.93	757.93	757.93	757.93	757.93				
22	Chemicals (17)	188.59	+0.5	6.96	4.46	17.76	5.25	187.95	187.95	187.95	187.95	187.95	187.95	187.95	187.95	187.95	187.95				
23	Oil Refining (1)	594.60	+0.4	6.88	3.29	9.74	6.38	593.31	586.16	585.13	585.13	585.13	585.13	585.13	585.13	585.13	585.13				
24	Shipping and Transport (12)	871.12	+0.3	7.51	3.61	13.28	8.77	870.93	869.34	869.34	869.34	869.34	869.34	869.34	869.34	869.34	869.34				
25	Wireless Networks (2)	642.43	+0.4	9.36	3.94	17.37	6.77	640.05	637.15	636.05	636.05	636.05	636.05	636.05	636.05	636.05	636.05				
26	INDUSTRIAL GROUP (485)	1174.98	+0.4	15.74	7.99	7.89	37.68	1174.91	1174.51	1174.51	1174.51	1174.51	1174.51	1174.51	1174.51	1174.51	1174.51				
27	Oil (37)	785.49	+0.2	38.20	4.27	12.16	3.25	785.94	786.92	786.92	786.92	786.92	786.92	786.92	786.92	786.92	786.92				
28	500 SHARE INDEX (200)	675.69	-0.2	5.25	8.31	—	—	675.69	675.69	675.69	675.69	675.69	675.69	675.69	675.69	675.69	675.69				
29	FINANCIAL GROUP (114)	719.50	-0.2	16.19	7.25	8.81	31.1	717.60	716.60	716.60	716.60	716.60	716.60	716.60	716.60	716.60	716.60				
30	Bank (6)	719.50	-0.5	—	4.41	—	14.71	713.62	714.60	714.60	714.60	714.60	714.60	714.60	714.60	714.60	714.60				
31	Insurance (Life) (6)	353.30	-0.3	—	5.52	—	8.53	354.37	355.40	355.40	355.40	355.40	355.40	355.40	355.40	355.40	355.40				
32	Insurance (Compulsory) (7)	1134.35	+0.5	7.56	3.62	17.43	17.24	1132.67	1131.67	1131.67	1131.67	1131.67	1131.67	1131.67	1131.67	1131.67	1131.67				
33	Insurance (Others) (7)	254.13	-0.4	—	1.23	26.81	1.23	254.81	254.81	254.81	254.81	254.81	254.81	254.81	254.81	254.81	254.81				
34	Merchant Banks (1)	670.30	-0.2	5.75	3.60	21.75	3.28	642.54	642.57	642.57	642.57	642.57	642.57	642.57	642.57	642.57	642.57				
35	Property (50)	296.30	-0.9	8.34	5.59	14.51	7.13	292.80	290.95	289.95	289.95	289.95	289.95	289.95	289.95	289.95	289.95				
36	Other Financial (122)	699.78	+1.0	—	3.32	—	5.95	698.93	698.62	698.62	698.62	698.62	698.62	698.62	698.62	698.62	698.62				
37	Investment Trusts (106)	289.48	+1.9	11.80	5.46	18.61	5.29	289.48	289.48	289.48	289.48	289.48	289.48	289.48	289.48	289.48	289.48				
38	Mining Finance (4)	675.48	+0.2	9.47	12.32	12.32	12.32	675.48	675.48	675.48	675.48	675.48	675.48	675.48	675.48	675.48	675.48				
39	Overseas Traders (14)	642.96	+0.2	—	4.40	—	8.80	641.92	639.44	637.97	636.88	636.88	636.88	636.88	636.88	636.88	636.88				
40	ALL-SHARE INDEX (750)	Index	No.	Days Change	Days High	Days Low	May 20	May 21	May 22	May 23	May 24	May 25	May 26	May 27	May 28	May 29	May 30				
41	500 SHARE INDEX	1353.4	-0.3	1357.3	1352.7	1350.4	1350.4	1350.4	1350.4	1350.4	1350.4	1350.4	1350.4	1350.4	1350.4	1350.4	1350.4				



## BRITISH FUNDS

11 Dec 1985	99.1	11.52
10 Dec 85	98.1	8.84

103.0	5.6	3.8	123
2.4	4.9	3.4	3.5



**"Recent Issues" and "Rights" Page 41**

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# The Halifax - now serving a third of the country's homes.



MOST SUCCESSFUL YEAR EVER FOR THE HALIFAX IN 1984

LENDING BROKE ALL RECORDS - UP 43% TO £5,350 MILLION

RECORD INVESTMENT INFLOW - UP 37% TO £3,510 MILLION

ASSETS NOW EXCEED £20 BILLION - GROWTH OF 22.1%

**"We achieved our aim of bringing mortgage rationing to an end for members."**

Speaking to members at the Society's Annual General Meeting held on 20th May 1985, the Chairman drew attention to the following:

## Growth and Lending

□ Growth and size are not ends in themselves. They are simply a result of meeting our members' needs in the savings and lending markets.

□ The number of new mortgages granted rose by 32% to 246,000 and we arranged a further 108,000 loans for improvements and repairs. Of the new loans 115,000, or nearly half, went to first-time buyers and over 30,000 were on new houses.

## Interest Rates & Savings

□ We can only meet the mortgage demand if we can offer competitive rates to our investors.

□ The savings market is now very competitive indeed, and our investing members rightly demand as good a return as they can obtain elsewhere.

Our savers also understand that as well as their interests we also have to consider the position of borrowers, whose anxiety is heightened by frequent changes in their outgoings.

We will reduce our rates as soon as competition for investment funds allows us to do so.

□ We see Cardcash as the main account of the future for meeting day-to-day needs.

## Administration

□ We have made a large investment in computers and communication systems and our staff productivity has increased by 41% over the past 5 years.

□ The Society now has 695 branches throughout the country - more than any other building society - and 2,400 agencies. And with over 300 Cardcash machines, no investor need be far from a Halifax outlet - even late at night or at weekends.

## Prospects for 1985-86

□ Our policy will be one of maintaining a steady and reliable source of mortgage funds at the lowest cost we can manage. Our lending this year may well be about the same as last year - something around £5,000m. Our new attractive savings schemes should bring in the money we need.

□ Members' support in 1984 was a vote of confidence in the future of the Halifax.

# HALIFAX

The world's No 1 building society.

# FT

FINANCIAL TIMES CONFERENCES

## Foreign Exchange Risk in 1985

Hotel Inter-Continental, London, 3 & 4 June 1985.

This year's conference comes at a most interesting time on the foreign exchange markets. Corporate treasurers and finance directors will explain their strategies and tactics, bankers will discuss their techniques and, in particular, the new ones now available and forecasters will look at the currency outlook. The speakers will include:

**Dr Axel Kollar**  
Westdeutsche Landesbank Girozentrale

**Mr David Lomax**  
National Westminster Bank plc

**Dr Deborah Allen Olivier**  
Claremont Economics Institute, USA

**Mr Anatole Kaletsky**  
Financial Times

**Mr Albert Soria**  
Swiss Bank Corporation, New York

**Mr H Ogai**  
The Sumitomo Bank Limited

**Dr Norbert Walter**  
Institut für Weltwirtschaft an der Universität Kiel

**Mr Henry H Hubbe**  
International Treasury Consulting Inc.

**Mr John L Sangster**  
Exco International plc

**Mr Per F Møller**  
Superfos

**Rt Hon Denis Healey, CH, MBE, MP**  
Former Chancellor of the Exchequer

**Mr Timothy Lyons**  
Credit Suisse First Boston Limited

**Mr John Calverley**  
American Express Bank

**Mr Graham Steward**  
Hambros Bank Ltd

**Rt Hon Terence Higgins, MP**  
Chairman of the Treasury and Civil Service Select Committee

**Mr Gary F Seelinger**  
Merrill Lynch International Bank Limited

A Financial Times International Conference in association with International Reports Inc. and The Banker.

## Foreign Exchange Risk in 1985

□ Please send me full details of your 'Foreign Exchange Risk in 1985' Conference.

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Company \_\_\_\_\_

## WORLD STOCK MARKETS

### Indices

#### NEW YORK DOW JONES

	May 22	May 21	May 20	May 19	May 18	May 17	May 16	May 15	May 14	May 13	May 12	May 11	May 10	May 9	May 8	May 7	May 6	May 5	May 4	May 3	May 2	May 1	1985	Since Completion
Industrials	1,233.78	1,233.78	1,233.78	1,233.78	1,233.78	1,233.78	1,233.78	1,233.78	1,233.78	1,233.78	1,233.78	1,233.78	1,233.78	1,233.78	1,233.78	1,233.78	1,233.78	1,233.78	1,233.78	1,233.78	1,233.78	1,233.78	1,233.78	1,233.78
Transport	622.86	622.86	622.86	622.86	622.86	622.86	622.86	622.86	622.86	622.86	622.86	622.86	622.86	622.86	622.86	622.86	622.86	622.86	622.86	622.86	622.86	622.86	622.86	622.86
Utilities	161.86	161.86	161.86	161.86	161.86	161.86	161.86	161.86	161.86	161.86	161.86	161.86	161.86	161.86	161.86	161.86	161.86	161.86	161.86	161.86	161.86	161.86	161.86	161.86
Trading vol																								

Ind Div Yield % 4.81 4.80 4.79 4.78

#### STANDARD AND POORS

	May 22	May 21	May 20	May 19	May 18	May 17	May 16	May 15	May 14	May 13	May 12	May 11	May 10	May 9	May 8	May 7	May 6	May 5	May 4	May 3	May 2	May 1	1985	Since Completion
Industrials	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57
Composites	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56

Ind Div Yield % 3.84 3.82 3.83 3.85

#### NEW YORK ACTIVE STOCKS

	May 22	May 21	May 20	May 19	May 18	May 17	May 16	May 15	May 14	May 13	May 12	May 11	May 10	May 9	May 8	May 7	May 6	May 5	May 4	May 3	May 2	May 1	1985	Since Completion
Industrials	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57
Composites	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56

Ind Div Yield % 3.84 3.82 3.83 3.85

#### NEW YORK ACTIVE STOCKS

	May 22	May 21	May 20	May 19	May 18	May 17	May 16	May 15	May 14	May 13	May 12	May 11	May 10	May 9	May 8	May 7	May 6	May 5	May 4	May 3	May 2	May 1	1985	Since Completion
Industrials	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57
Composites	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56

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Industrials	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57
Composites	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56

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Industrials	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57
Composites	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56

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Industrials	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57
Composites	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56

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Industrials	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57
Composites	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56

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Industrials	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57	228.57
Composites	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56	185.56

Ind Div Yield % 3.84 3.82 3.83 3.85

#### NEW YORK ACTIVE STOCKS

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# BUSINESS LAW

## How to remove most of the civil disputes from the courts

By A. H. HERMANN, Legal Correspondent

LAST WEEK Sir John Donaldson, the Master of the Rolls, addressed arbitrators at the annual dinner of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and two days later, on opening the Institute's seminar on the choice of arbitration rules in international disputes. The latter was a rather tame performance, but Sir John's often heard but seldom followed admonishment that the drafting of the arbitration clause is not something to be left until well after midnight when the negotiators are exhausted and elated by the successful cracking of the "essential" clauses of the contract — and possibly also by the drink consumed in the process.

The first speech, by contrast, was not tame at all. After Lord Denning, who is a law reformer, we have now a Master of the Rolls who wants to reinvigorate the courts and the machinery of justice. Or did I hear the voice of a future Lord Chancellor?

Sir John Donaldson is of course, pushed by necessity. Two many appeals are churning the few courts. His time-saving improvements in the civil branch of the Court of Appeal, though resented by barristers, have helped. The Court of Appeal disposed last year of nearly 1,100 appeals, an all-time record, but Sir John is apprehensive: "If there is any increase in the number of appeals being set down, delays will begin to mount as the backlog increases." This is a problem, he says, which affects not only the Court of Appeal but the whole of the civil administration of justice.

### Active judges

The Master of the Rolls urges the judges and arbitrators, the private branch of the law industry, to adopt a more active posture. The judge or arbitrator who sits back and says nothing when the parties or counsel are labouring a point he fully understands and may indeed accept, is not helping the parties. He is just increasing the cost of settling the dispute.

This may sound just sheer common sense to the businessman, but is viewed as revolutionary by the Bar. Are we not moving towards the incontinent system, conveniently labelled "inquisitorial" (to bring to mind the horrors of the Spanish

inquisition)? The English judge, and his wiggles after go, the arbitrator, edict according to the accepted wisdom of the profession, merely to hold the rope at which the two parties pull in opposite directions. Any curtailment of the long speeches (lawyers are on time rate) is against natural justice. But the red light which stops American lawyers after 30 minutes of speech-making is not against natural justice (especially when the American lawyer is not paid according to the time spent on his feet but receives a share in the award).

Whatever the Bar may think, Sir John's admonishments, and even the written "skeleton" pleadings he introduced, are not really revolutionary. The only remedy which would achieve a change of heart in the legal profession, and shorten not only barristers' speeches but the entire proceedings, would be a radical revision of the ways lawyers are being paid. The U.S. system of payments by results (contingency fees) is not the only possibility, though its rejection could be reconsidered, particularly in the areas where the impecunious party to a dispute, often the victim of an accident, above the legal aid limit and does not have the means of nearly 1,100 appeals, an all-time record, but Sir John is apprehensive: "If there is any increase in the number of appeals being set down, delays will begin to mount as the backlog increases." This is a problem, he says, which affects not only the Court of Appeal but the whole of the civil administration of justice.

There are other possibilities, well tested elsewhere, such as scales of fees proportionate to the amount in dispute. A system of flat fees for certain standard litigations and arbitrations would do wonders in shortening the proceedings — we might be even faced with the problem of judicial redundancy.

No such fear of present litigations is limited to the amount of time that can be saved by the arbitrator to curtail repetitive speeches, says Sir John. "In the end, if the demand for disputes settlement increases further, as I think that it will, we are going to have to find more judges."

### Radical idea

The Master of the Rolls thinks that this will not be easy. The number of trained lawyers is limited, and even fewer are able and willing to become professional judges. At this point of his speech Sir John, who has always straddled the divide between litigation and arbitration, said:

came forward with his radical proposition: if justices of the peace, who are not usually lawyers, can try over 90 per cent of criminal cases, why could not arbitrators play a similar role in the resolution of civil disputes? But justices of the peace are trained to try criminal cases and arbitrators should receive similar training for trying civil disputes. The Master of the Rolls said: "The Chartered Institute has done more than anyone else in this country in training arbitrators. It is the only body which conducts examinations in the art or science of arbitration and confers specific qualifications. I think the time may well come when it will be thought desirable to restrict the enforcement of awards to those made by qualified arbitrators, at least so far as non-international arbitration is concerned."

Now this is a welcome departure, quite unexpected from a judge but it has to be considered from all sides to see how such a system could be made to work. There is no doubt of the urgent need to lighten the burden of the courts, and even more to reduce the costs of settling disputes, but the two things are contradictory in the sense that, the cheaper litigation and arbitration are, the more people turn to them for settling of their disputes.

There are thousands of arbitrations taking place in London each year which are about the quality of the delivered goods and are settled quickly by arbitrating. The panels of experts, who play a crucial role, are often out-of-date and inadequately specialised, so that it may happen that an electrical contractor is invited to give an expert opinion on a computer or on another electronic device.

The first disadvantage is evaded in the system of German and Austrian commercial courts, where a professional judge sits with two businessmen, but this seems to be far from a commercial code, the Rolls had in mind.

Above all, the law should be made more certain and understandable to businessmen. To repeat the conclusion of last week's column: There is need for a commercial code, preferably passed by Parliament, but more probably agreed privately by the business community.

litigation, and their only real advantage to the parties is confidentiality. Otherwise, the parties might be often served better by going straight to the commercial court.

The first requirement for making arbitration work, therefore, is the removal of the judicial review of points of law. Once this is done, parties in dispute will have no need of barristers to represent them, and arbitration will be faster and cheaper.

The second question concerns the method of channeling to arbitration disputes which now go straight to courts. One can adopt either the methods used in some federal circuits in the U.S., where the courts can order arbitration whenever the amount in dispute is under a certain limit, or one can go the French way. This is to establish regional commercial courts composed of lay judges elected by the business community. These commercial courts decide mainly on the basis of an opinion by an expert appointed by them from a semi-permanent panel. The more legally difficult cases are usually steered to the first bench of the court with more experienced lay judges who may have some legal training.

This system has very much the same function as English arbitration but is less formal, faster and cheaper than "big" arbitration when parties come with lawyers. It has two serious disadvantages. First, in a provincial town all the businessmen know each other and have intertwined interests, so that the impartiality of elected judges can be questioned. Second, the panels of experts, who play a crucial role, are often out-of-date and inadequately specialised, so that it may happen that an electrical contractor is invited to give an expert opinion on a computer or on another electronic device.

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## COMMODITIES AND AGRICULTURE

## U.S. takes on EEC with major surplus dairy sale

BY NANCY DUNNE IN WASHINGTON

THE THREAT of an agricultural trade war between the U.S. and the EEC loomed ever larger yesterday, following the announcement by Mr John Block, the U.S. Agriculture Secretary, of two American dairy sales to traditional Community markets.

The U.S. has agreed to sell some government surplus stocks — \$7.5m worth of dried milk, to be used as calves milk replacer, to Spain and \$4.35m worth of butter oil (3,000 tonnes) to Jamaica.

France is usually the largest supplier of butter oil to Jamaica, with the U.S. second and the UK third, according to U.S. Department of Agriculture officials. Spain is a major importer of EEC dried milk and whey products used in animal feed.

The sale comes a week after Secretary Block announced a different scheme to subsidize U.S. farm exports with government-owned commodities. He said the programme would be

aimed at markets captured from the U.S. by unfair trade practices.

In announcing the dairy deals, Mr Block said his goal was to help U.S. agriculture exports "in a world trading environment which has become increasingly difficult for those who try to compete on the basis of comparative advantage."

The sale provides Spain with 25,000 tonnes of non-fat dry milk and an option to take an additional 40,000 tonnes. The U.S. dried milk surplus now totals nearly 1m pounds, so the sale lowers the stockpile only about 5 per cent.

Andrew Gowers adds: As well as upsetting the EEC, the new U.S. dairy sale is bound to be greeted with concern by other big dairy exporters such as New Zealand. By intensifying the competition in the already cut-throat dairy market, it may also have an impact on current attempts to restore order to the International Dairy Agree-

ment (IDA).

The U.S. left the IDA, set up under the auspices of the Geneva-based General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, in disgust in January following the EEC's unilateral decision to make a large sale of cut-price butter out of its own surplus stocks to the Soviet Union last year, and a subsequent wave of cut-price sales by other exporters.

The EEC deal has since been granted a waiver from the IDA's minimum price provisions, and recent negotiations in Geneva have focused on attempting to set up a mechanism whereby the Community could make another big cut-price sale to Russia without causing major disruption to the Agreement.

The U.S. sale will not unduly surprise IDA member countries, however, as Washington said when it pulled out of the Agreement that it planned to flood parts of its surplus in this way.

## U.S. crude oil stocks resume advance

By The Washington Staff

U.S. STOCKS of crude oil rose last week by 1.5m barrels to a total of 343.5m barrels, reversing the previous week's downturn. But they lagged behind last year's figures by 9.4m barrels. In the same week in 1984 stocks stood at 357.9m barrels according to the American Petroleum Institute.

Stocks of petroleum were 216.2m barrels, slightly up over the week. However, they showed a considerable shortfall of 32.7m barrels on 1984 levels. Lower stocks of leaded petrol accounted for over 75 per cent of the difference.

U.S. petrol prices have soared by 5 cents since Easter to a national average of \$1.25, about the same price as this time last year, according to the American Automobile Association. Prices are expected to continue to rise slightly during the summer months.

Imports of crude oil dropped slightly to 3.6m barrels approximately the same level as last year's.

Stocks of distillate fuel oil totalled 99.8m barrels, a gain of 3.2m barrels on the week before. A year ago the figure was 97.5m barrels.

Residual fuel oil stocks declined by 1.3m barrels to 42.1m barrels over the week.

● The weighted average for the 23,508 packages of landed tea sold at Monday's London sale was 130.18 pence a kilo against 133.44p last week and 253.12p a year ago. The average for the 430,890 packages sold so far this year is 218.71p against 266.44p for the 405,796 packages sold by the same date last year.

● World Production of 16 major oil and fuels in the second half of this season is likely to rise to 32.4m tonnes from 30.4m in the same 1984 period, bringing this season's total increase to 3.0m tonnes, the Hamburg-based newsletter Oil World said.

● West Germany is expected to have a good grain harvest this year, below last year's record 26.6m tonnes crop but above the long-term average of 23.8m, the Agriculture Ministry said.

## John Edwards on Brazil's programme to convert sugar into fuel

## New spirit for a sagging market

DELEGATES FROM the world's sugar producing countries will be flocking to Brazil next month in the hope of finding a solution to the question that has been tearing the industry — is there any way of relieving the over-supply crisis which recently drove world prices to the lowest level for 15 years?

Until quite recently the world sugar market had always moved in a cyclical boom and bust fashion. Periods of short supply raised prices, thus encouraging increased production which in turn drove prices down again. In response to a production reduction, causing a new shortage and another turn in the cycle.

The present crisis, however, seems set to continue indefinitely unless there are some major disasters in the main producing areas.

The existing structure of special international trade deals coupled with price protection for a large proportion of the world's growers means that the industry surplus is hanging the market is likely to remain for a long time unless some radical changes are made in the basic system.

The Brazilians, the world's biggest producers of sugar, have found their own solution, however, the beginning of this year, operated simply as a form for the exchange of information and opinions.

Before the talks began yesterday delegates said there was likely to be some informal discussion, however, of how the climate for a new round of negotiations might be improved if, for example, any of the larger exporters were to freeze or even reduce production.

Current estimates by ISA members are for an addition of a whole range of ethanol-based chemical products.

For the moment, however, the big success story in Brazil has been the development of alcohol-powered cars. Contrary to the many stories about the switch to alcohol, the Brazilian switch to alcohol, based on the early teething troubles, the pre-1979 programme launched in 1979 has been a tremendous success.

Over 90 per cent of the passenger cars produced in Brazil are now also cars. The early

required for its production and processing.

The advantage of sugar cane is that the dry matter, known as bagasse, which is left over after the sugar juice is squeezed out is used as fuel to provide power for the milling process. Indeed while the milling season is on, the bagasse often provides a surplus of energy that can be fed into the country's electricity system.

Sugar cane is a renewable source of energy providing pure alcohol that can be used as an alternative to gasoline and a variety of other products, in-

problems resulted from attempts to convert conventional cars to use ethanol.

It was soon discovered that it was impractical just to modify the engine to the new fuel. The Brazilian automobile industry now leads the world in the development of specially designed ethanol-powered cars that have proved extremely popular with customers and also help the environment by reducing pollution.

All this was made possible by close co-operation between the Government, the automobile industry and cane producers.

The problem of the chronic world sugar surplus and resulting historic low prices are being discussed at a two day meeting of the International Sugar Organisation which began in London yesterday.

No moves towards the negotiation of a fully-operative price stabilising International Sugar Agreement (ISA) are expected, however. Following the failure of last June's attempt at renegotiating the 1977 agreement the ISA has, since the beginning of this year, operated simply as a forum for the exchange of information and opinions.

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Over 90 per cent of the passenger cars produced in Brazil are now also cars. The early

year sets quotas on the amount of ethanol and sugar required, again providing a price incentive for increased output of alcohol.

It is quite easy for sugar mills at an early stage to decide whether to convert the juice obtained from cane either into sugar or into ethanol. A tonne of cane is converted either to 110 kilos of sugar or 700 litres of ethanol. The problem is providing the right financial reward to produce ethanol at the required rate to meet the planned national requirements and serve export markets.

Demand for sugar has been stagnant, especially in export markets. As a result the position has been reached where more cane is being converted into ethanol and sugar has been reduced to the status of a by-product.

All this has been achieved by the Brazilian Government ignoring the normal economic logic. It is estimated, for example, that the cost of producing ethanol is between \$45 to \$75 a barrel, compared with less than \$30 for conventional oil. However, its use does make economic sense for a country desperately short of foreign exchange and needing to promote the use of its abundant natural resources.

The purpose of the Sao Paulo symposium is to see whether other cane producers can or want to follow the Brazilian example.

The present state of the world sugar market means there is a powerful incentive for them to take some drastic action. Even if it may not be economically viable in the short term, there is at least as much logic in putting sugar to this use as in massively subsidising unwanted production. Reduced dependence on oil imports, and the development of a healthy domestic industry is desirable. Much depends, however, on the future prospects for ethanol as a source of energy. Already stocks have been building up ominously in Brazil and the falling price of oil and methane (derived from natural gas) may put ethanol in the same position as sugar — too much supply chasing too little demand.

## Potato market may scrap physical delivery

BY ANDREW GOWERS

LONDON'S POTATO futures market is considering important changes to its contracts to take effect from next year. They could involve the eventual scrapping of deliveries under potato futures contracts and a shift to a cash settlement or index system.

The discussions between Potato Futures Association members stem from growing dissatisfaction with the present system among buyers and sellers — and in particular from representations by the Potato Marketing Board, which has had considerable difficulties with deliveries over the past few months.

Among possibilities under initial consideration are the introduction of a cash settlement-only contract for early potatoes in the months from June onwards. According to Mr Bill Englebright, joint secretary of the Association, this would be

a response to pressure from farmers who want a hedging opportunity for their early crop.

At present, futures trading is only possible for the main crop, from November onwards.

Early potato contracts could then be used as a test for the possible introduction of cash settlement contracts for the rest of the market.

Deliveries have caused difficulties in recent months particularly in relation to quality. Last November, the market faced its biggest crisis when sellers had problems in delivering after a single trader bought an unusually large number of contracts.

● London's new freight futures exchange, Biffex, announced yesterday that it had set up a working group to study the possibility of developing a tanker freight rate index in addition to its existing index for bulk dry cargo goods.

## Copper price up as squeeze fears reappear

By Our Commodities Staff

COPPER PRICES shot up by more than \$30 a tonne on the London Metal Exchange yesterday, and the three-month price re-established a premium over the cash quotation, raising new fears of a supply squeeze.

The cash price closed at \$1,105.50 per tonne, compared with Tuesday's final level of \$1,174. The three-month price ended at \$1,197.75, against a previous \$1,177.50.

Traders were baffled by the re-emergence of the cash premium, or backwardation, which comes only days after the more normal three-month premium had been restored, leading to hopes that the recent long supply squeeze was slackening off.

They said it did not appear to have been sparked by the same operators as caused the previous squeeze.

## LONDON MARKETS

## BASE METALS

LME prices supplied by Amalgamated Metal Trading

## ALUMINIUM

	Official	+ or -	High/Low
Three months	2276.5-7.5	+3.5	2276.5-7.5
Official closing (am):	2276.5		2276.5
Settlement (am):	2276.5		2276.5
Final Kero close:	2276.5		2276.5

## COPPER

	Official	+ or -	High/Low
Three months	1191.0-1.0	+3.5	1191.0-1.0
Official closing (am):	1191.0		1191.0
Settlement (am):	1191.0		1191.0
Final Kero close:	1191.0		1191.0

## LEAD

	Official	+ or -	High/Low
Three months	2294.0-4.0	+8.0	2294.0-4.0
Official closing (am):	2294.0		2294.0
Settlement (am):	2294.0		2294.0
Final Kero close:	2294.0		2294.0

## NICKEL

	Official	+ or -	High/Low
Three months	2441.0-1.0	+1.0	2441.0-1.0
Official closing (am):	2441.0		2441.0
Settlement (am):	2441.0		2441.0
Final Kero close:	2441.0		2441.0

## TIN

	Official	+ or -	High/Low
Three months	2367.0-7.0	+8.0	2367.0-7.0
Official closing (am):	2367.0		2367.0
Settlement (am):	2367.0		2367.0
Final Kero close:	2367.0		2367.0

## ZINC

	Official	+ or -	High/Low
Three months	2367.0-7.0	+8.0	2367.0-7.0
Official closing (am):	2367.0		2367.0
Settlement (am):	2367.0		2367.0
Final Kero close:	2367.0		2367.0

## MAIN PRICE CHANGES

	May 23	+ or -	Month
Aluminium	2276.5	+3.5	2276.5
Copper	1191.0	+3.5	1191.0
Lead	2294.0	+8.0	2294.0
Nickel	2441.0	+1.0	2441.0
Tin	2367.0	+8.0	2367.0
Zinc	2367.0	+8.0	2367.0

## GOLD

	May 23	+ or -	Month
Gold Bullion	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Bars	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Coins	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Jewellery	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Watch	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Ring	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Bracelet	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Chain	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Earrings	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Necklace	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Brooch	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Pin	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Ring	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Bracelet	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Chain	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Earrings	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Necklace	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Brooch	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Pin	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Ring	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Bracelet	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Chain	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Earrings	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Necklace	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Brooch	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Pin	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Ring	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Bracelet	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Chain	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Earrings	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Necklace	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Brooch	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Pin	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Ring	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Bracelet	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Chain	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Earrings	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Necklace	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Brooch	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Pin	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Ring	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Bracelet	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Chain	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Earrings	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Necklace	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Brooch	294.0	+0.5	294.0
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Gold Earrings	294.0	+0.5	294.0
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Gold Chain	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Earrings	294.0	+0.5	294.0
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Gold Bracelet	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Chain	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Earrings	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Necklace	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Brooch	294.0	+0.5	294.0
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Gold Chain	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Earrings	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Necklace	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Brooch	294.0	+0.5	294.0
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Gold Earrings	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Necklace	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Brooch	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Pin	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Ring	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Bracelet	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Chain	294.0	+0.5	294.0
Gold Earrings	294.0	+0.5	294.0



# CURRENCIES, MONEY and CAPITAL MARKETS

## FOREIGN EXCHANGES

### Dollar continues to improve

The dollar finished towards the higher end of the day's range in currency markets yesterday and showed an overall improvement from Tuesday. Trading volume tended to thin out a little ahead of the long weekend in London and the proximity of the month end. A 1 per cent rise in U.S. durable goods orders was pretty much in line with market expectations and had not been expected to influence the market to any great extent anyway.

Recent comments stressing that the U.S. economy was set to rebound in the second half of this year may have been reassuring but failed to provide any immediate incentive to increase dollar holdings. The U.S. unit finished at DM 3.0765 against the D-mark up from DM 3.0670 on Tuesday and SwFr 2.5865 compared with SwFr 2.5800. It was also better in terms of the Japanese yen at ¥250.25 from ¥250.00 and the West German mark at 1.4450 from 1.4400. The Bank of England figures, the dollar's exchange rate index was 145.2 from 145.4.

**STERLING** — Trading range against the dollar in 1985 is 1.2940 to 1.6535. April average unit sterling exchange rate fell to 79.3, having touched a best level of 79.5 and compared with Monday's close of 79.5. The six-month average figure was 79.4. Sterling was slightly weaker overall, slipping against the dollar and also coming back from its best levels in terms of ERM currencies and the yen. Once again trading was relatively thin. The relatively high level of UK interest rates provided the backbone of support for the pound and it remained an obvious investment alternative to the dollar. Against the U.S. unit sterling slipped to 79.3, a fall of 80 points from Tuesday and it was also weaker in terms of the D-mark at DM 3.0765. Against the Swiss franc it finished at SwFr 2.5865 from SwFr 2.5800. The French franc fell to FF 11.800 from FF 11.812. Against the yen it slipped to ¥250.25 from ¥250.00.

**EMS EUROPEAN CURRENCY UNIT RATES**

Currency	Unit	Rate	% change	% change	Divergence
Belgium franc	100	46.300	+0.01	+0.01	-0.01
Dutch guilder	100	3.603	+0.01	+0.01	-0.01
French franc	100	11.800	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01
Italian lira	1,000	1,936.27	+0.01	+0.01	-0.01
Spanish peseta	100	166.637	+0.01	+0.01	-0.01
Portuguese escudo	100	200.482	+0.01	+0.01	-0.01
Irish punt	100	7.87564	+0.01	+0.01	-0.01
German mark	100	3.0765	+0.01	+0.01	-0.01

### POUND SPOT—FORWARD AGAINST POUND

May 23	Day's spread	Close	One month	%	Three months
U.S.	1.2926-1.2930	1.2928-1.2936	0.54-0.51c	4.80	1.48-1.43c
Canada	1.2930-1.2934	1.2932-1.2938	0.48-0.45c	3.64	1.43-1.38c
France	1.2934-1.2938	1.2936-1.2942	0.42-0.39c	3.24	1.38-1.33c
Norhding	1.2938-1.2942	1.2940-1.2946	0.36-0.33c	2.84	1.33-1.28c
Germany	1.2942-1.2946	1.2944-1.2950	0.30-0.27c	2.44	1.29-1.24c
Belgium	1.2946-1.2950	1.2948-1.2954	0.24-0.21c	2.04	1.25-1.20c
Italy	1.2950-1.2954	1.2952-1.2958	0.18-0.15c	1.64	1.21-1.16c
W. Gar.	2.289-2.303	2.301-2.315	2.21-2.19c	7.51	7.45c
Japan	1.2954-1.2958	1.2956-1.2962	0.12-0.09c	1.24	1.17-1.12c
Spain	1.2958-1.2962	1.2960-1.2966	0.06-0.03c	0.84	0.80-0.75c
Sweden	1.2962-1.2966	1.2964-1.2970	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.40-0.35c
Switzerland	1.2966-1.2970	1.2968-1.2974	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.36-0.31c
France	1.2970-1.2974	1.2972-1.2978	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.32-0.27c
Germany	1.2974-1.2978	1.2976-1.2982	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.28-0.23c
Italy	1.2978-1.2982	1.2980-1.2986	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.24-0.19c
Netherlands	1.2982-1.2986	1.2984-1.2990	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.20-0.15c
Australia	1.2986-1.2990	1.2988-1.2994	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.16-0.11c
New Zealand	1.2990-1.2994	1.2992-1.2998	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.12-0.07c
South Africa	1.2994-1.2998	1.2996-1.3002	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.08-0.03c
Portugal	1.2998-1.3002	1.3000-1.3006	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.04-0.00c
Greece	1.3002-1.3006	1.3004-1.3010	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Spain	1.3006-1.3010	1.3008-1.3014	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Sweden	1.3010-1.3014	1.3012-1.3018	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Switzerland	1.3014-1.3018	1.3016-1.3022	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Belgium	1.3018-1.3022	1.3020-1.3026	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Netherlands	1.3022-1.3026	1.3024-1.3030	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Australia	1.3026-1.3030	1.3028-1.3034	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
New Zealand	1.3030-1.3034	1.3032-1.3038	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
South Africa	1.3034-1.3038	1.3036-1.3042	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Portugal	1.3038-1.3042	1.3040-1.3046	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Greece	1.3042-1.3046	1.3044-1.3050	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Spain	1.3046-1.3050	1.3048-1.3054	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Sweden	1.3050-1.3054	1.3052-1.3058	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Switzerland	1.3054-1.3058	1.3056-1.3062	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Belgium	1.3058-1.3062	1.3060-1.3066	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Netherlands	1.3062-1.3066	1.3064-1.3070	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Australia	1.3066-1.3070	1.3068-1.3074	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
New Zealand	1.3070-1.3074	1.3072-1.3078	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
South Africa	1.3074-1.3078	1.3076-1.3082	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Portugal	1.3078-1.3082	1.3080-1.3086	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Greece	1.3082-1.3086	1.3084-1.3090	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Spain	1.3086-1.3090	1.3088-1.3094	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Sweden	1.3090-1.3094	1.3092-1.3098	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Switzerland	1.3094-1.3098	1.3096-1.3102	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Belgium	1.3098-1.3102	1.3100-1.3106	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Netherlands	1.3102-1.3106	1.3104-1.3110	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Australia	1.3106-1.3110	1.3108-1.3114	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
New Zealand	1.3110-1.3114	1.3112-1.3118	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
South Africa	1.3114-1.3118	1.3116-1.3122	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Portugal	1.3118-1.3122	1.3120-1.3126	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Greece	1.3122-1.3126	1.3124-1.3130	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Spain	1.3126-1.3130	1.3128-1.3134	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Sweden	1.3130-1.3134	1.3132-1.3138	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Switzerland	1.3134-1.3138	1.3136-1.3142	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Belgium	1.3138-1.3142	1.3140-1.3146	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Netherlands	1.3142-1.3146	1.3144-1.3150	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Australia	1.3146-1.3150	1.3148-1.3154	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
New Zealand	1.3150-1.3154	1.3152-1.3158	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
South Africa	1.3154-1.3158	1.3156-1.3162	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Portugal	1.3158-1.3162	1.3160-1.3166	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Greece	1.3162-1.3166	1.3164-1.3170	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Spain	1.3166-1.3170	1.3168-1.3174	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Sweden	1.3170-1.3174	1.3172-1.3178	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Switzerland	1.3174-1.3178	1.3176-1.3182	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Belgium	1.3178-1.3182	1.3180-1.3186	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Netherlands	1.3182-1.3186	1.3184-1.3190	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Australia	1.3186-1.3190	1.3188-1.3194	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
New Zealand	1.3190-1.3194	1.3192-1.3198	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
South Africa	1.3194-1.3198	1.3196-1.3202	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Portugal	1.3198-1.3202	1.3200-1.3206	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Greece	1.3202-1.3206	1.3204-1.3210	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Spain	1.3206-1.3210	1.3208-1.3214	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Sweden	1.3210-1.3214	1.3212-1.3218	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Switzerland	1.3214-1.3218	1.3216-1.3222	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Belgium	1.3218-1.3222	1.3220-1.3226	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Netherlands	1.3222-1.3226	1.3224-1.3230	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Australia	1.3226-1.3230	1.3228-1.3234	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
New Zealand	1.3230-1.3234	1.3232-1.3238	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
South Africa	1.3234-1.3238	1.3236-1.3242	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Portugal	1.3238-1.3242	1.3240-1.3246	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Greece	1.3242-1.3246	1.3244-1.3250	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Spain	1.3246-1.3250	1.3248-1.3254	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Sweden	1.3250-1.3254	1.3252-1.3258	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Switzerland	1.3254-1.3258	1.3256-1.3262	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Belgium	1.3258-1.3262	1.3260-1.3266	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Netherlands	1.3262-1.3266	1.3264-1.3270	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Australia	1.3266-1.3270	1.3268-1.3274	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
New Zealand	1.3270-1.3274	1.3272-1.3278	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
South Africa	1.3274-1.3278	1.3276-1.3282	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Portugal	1.3278-1.3282	1.3280-1.3286	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Greece	1.3282-1.3286	1.3284-1.3290	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Spain	1.3286-1.3290	1.3288-1.3294	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Sweden	1.3290-1.3294	1.3292-1.3298	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Switzerland	1.3294-1.3298	1.3296-1.3302	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Belgium	1.3298-1.3302	1.3300-1.3306	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Netherlands	1.3302-1.3306	1.3304-1.3310	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Australia	1.3306-1.3310	1.3308-1.3314	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
New Zealand	1.3310-1.3314	1.3312-1.3318	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
South Africa	1.3314-1.3318	1.3316-1.3322	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Portugal	1.3318-1.3322	1.3320-1.3326	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Greece	1.3322-1.3326	1.3324-1.3330	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Spain	1.3326-1.3330	1.3328-1.3334	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Sweden	1.3330-1.3334	1.3332-1.3338	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Switzerland	1.3334-1.3338	1.3336-1.3342	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Belgium	1.3338-1.3342	1.3340-1.3346	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Netherlands	1.3342-1.3346	1.3344-1.3350	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Australia	1.3346-1.3350	1.3348-1.3354	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
New Zealand	1.3350-1.3354	1.3352-1.3358	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
South Africa	1.3354-1.3358	1.3356-1.3362	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Portugal	1.3358-1.3362	1.3360-1.3366	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Greece	1.3362-1.3366	1.3364-1.3370	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Spain	1.3366-1.3370	1.3368-1.3374	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Sweden	1.3370-1.3374	1.3372-1.3378	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Switzerland	1.3374-1.3378	1.3376-1.3382	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Belgium	1.3378-1.3382	1.3380-1.3386	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Netherlands	1.3382-1.3386	1.3384-1.3390	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Australia	1.3386-1.3390	1.3388-1.3394	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
New Zealand	1.3390-1.3394	1.3392-1.3398	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
South Africa	1.3394-1.3398	1.3396-1.3402	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Portugal	1.3398-1.3402	1.3400-1.3406	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Greece	1.3402-1.3406	1.3404-1.3410	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Spain	1.3406-1.3410	1.3408-1.3414	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Sweden	1.3410-1.3414	1.3412-1.3418	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Switzerland	1.3414-1.3418	1.3416-1.3422	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Belgium	1.3418-1.3422	1.3420-1.3426	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Netherlands	1.3422-1.3426	1.3424-1.3430	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Australia	1.3426-1.3430	1.3428-1.3434	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
New Zealand	1.3430-1.3434	1.3432-1.3438	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
South Africa	1.3434-1.3438	1.3436-1.3442	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Portugal	1.3438-1.3442	1.3440-1.3446	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Greece	1.3442-1.3446	1.3444-1.3450	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Spain	1.3446-1.3450	1.3448-1.3454	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Sweden	1.3450-1.3454	1.3452-1.3458	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Switzerland	1.3454-1.3458	1.3456-1.3462	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Belgium	1.3458-1.3462	1.3460-1.3466	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Netherlands	1.3462-1.3466	1.3464-1.3470	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Australia	1.3466-1.3470	1.3468-1.3474	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
New Zealand	1.3470-1.3474	1.3472-1.3478	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
South Africa	1.3474-1.3478	1.3476-1.3482	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Portugal	1.3478-1.3482	1.3480-1.3486	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Greece	1.3482-1.3486	1.3484-1.3490	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Spain	1.3486-1.3490	1.3488-1.3494	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Sweden	1.3490-1.3494	1.3492-1.3498	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Switzerland	1.3494-1.3498	1.3496-1.3502	0.00-0.01c	0.44	0.00-0.00c
Belgium	1.3498-1.3502	1.3500-1.3506			



